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BY JODY REESE

## GRANITE VIEWS

### You're the best



Thank you, Hippo readers, for making our 10th Best Of the biggest and best yet. More people voted this year than in any year past, with more than 10,000 taking part.

As the Hippo has grown from a mostly Manchester paper to the most-read paper in southern New Hampshire, so too has the voting changed. This year we saw a record number of voters from the Seacoast area, where we have a summer Hippo paper and some year-round distribution. We also saw a lot more voting from Salem and Plaistow, where the paper is now available.

The other major difference we saw this year in voting was the diversity. In the category of best restaurant, people named hundreds of great local places to eat. Best teacher? So many names.

What comes through when you see the results is people's love for this community. It's easy to go online and see negative comments about our state or our cities. And it's easy to find something to complain about. But our readers found things to be thankful for. Great park? We've got scores of them. Great place to take out-of-town relatives — we've got hundreds of those.

Each year we get asked how we determine the winners. Unfortunately for the staff, we painstakingly count all the votes in all the categories. All counting is done by the editorial staff. Those of us (me included) on the advertising side of the paper are not involved in the counting in any way. Our paper has a policy expressly forbidding advertising from having influence on the content in the paper. This year it took us more than 100 hours to count. There are some Best-Of-type polls out there than have drop-down menus and "editor's picks." That, we feel, defeats the whole purpose of a Best Of — letting the readers say what is special about their community. Each week in the paper our editor and staff try to find the most interesting things to do and stories in this area. But the Best Of is different. It isn't about our judgment, it's about your judgment. It's about what you find fascinating and great about where you live. It's about our people and places — and you can't get that from a drop-down menu. So even though it makes counting that much more difficult, we feel it's important to really go the distance and let you decide what's the best.

We're looking for suggestions on where you want to find our paper. Most supermarkets do carry the paper, but if your local one doesn't please feel free to contact us (jreese@hippopress.com or facebook/hippopress) and we'll see about getting the paper into your local store. You can also read the entire paper online at hippopress.com in our new easy-to-use app. Just click the "Read this week's paper" link at www.hippopress.com.

**Good News:** Two local entrepreneurs used the recession to grow or start their businesses. Jerome Duval, former owner of the Derryfield Deli, started his real estate business in 2008 and has seen business steadily increase in the past two years. His office is on Hanover Street in Manchester. David Bellman, of Bellman Jewelers on Elm Street in Manchester, too took a risk and opened a second location in Portsmouth, which has been doing great.

### 14 Best of 2011

Who did Hippo readers pick as "best local radio show host"? Greg Kretschmar, the man gracing this week's cover. His morning show, *Greg and the Morning Buzz*, which runs on Rock 101 as well as other stations, was also your choice for "best local radio show." Get the rest of the results of our annual readers' poll starting on page 14.



Cover photo of Greg Kretschmar by Gil Talbot, gitalbot.com.

### Also on the cover: Looking for nightlife?

Now that the weather is a bit warmer, hit the town for the night and use our Music This Week listing of bands playing at area bars and restaurants to guide you. See page 70.

**Piping hot food news** — we have stories on three new restaurants as well as food events in the Weekly Dish and stories about three locally made items for your pantry. It all starts on page 50.

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# NEWS & NOTES

## News in Brief

• **Ayotte joins Armed Services subcommittee:** U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte announced last week she has been selected to serve as the ranking member on the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support. The committee is responsible for Department of Defense oversight in critical areas, such as training, logistics, maintenance, military construction, financial management and acquisition policy. She has been assigned to the Subcommittee on Seapower and the Subcommittee on Personnel. Ayotte said in a statement that serving on the Readiness Subcommittee puts her in a position to ensure the resources provided to the military are used wisely and effectively. She also said she'd have a strong platform to advocate for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

• **Senate votes for changes to state retirement system:** The state Senate voted to support sweeping retirement reforms when it passed Senate Bill 3 last week. The legislation would make changes to ensure the state has a stable retirement system for public employees, according to a Senate press release. It also shares the burden of the \$4.7 billion unfunded liability facing the state's retirement system and preserves the system for current, retired and future employees. Sen. Jeb Bradley, R-Wolfeboro, told colleagues the state is currently rated the fourth-worst state regarding unfunded liabilities. Opponents of the bill proposed six separate

floor amendments during debate. All but one were defeated, the release said. The bill now goes to the Senate Finance Committee. The bill would raise employee contribution rates, would change how the state determines earnable compensation and would increase retirement ages. It would also create a voluntary defined contribution plan.

• **Be careful with floating disks:** Those white disks, about the size of a quarter, that originated at the Hooksett Wastewater Treatment Plant and were found throughout the downstream course of the Merrimack River last week appear to have a low risk of bacteria. Still, the state Department of Environmental Services and state Division of Public Health Services advise citizens to treat the disks as though they do contain harmful contamination. Between three and four million of the disks floated downstream in the last couple weeks. Officials collected some of the disks on the seacoast nearly two weeks ago and analyzed them for e. coli and enterococci, which may indicate the presence of sewage or other sources of bacteria. Tests found the organisms present but in relatively low numbers. However, a Union Leader report indicated that along with the white disks, about 300,000 gallons of raw sewage spilled into the Merrimack River.

• **Bill would lower cigarette taxes:** House lawmakers are looking to reduce the state tobacco tax. House Bill 156 would call for a 10-cent rollback on the tax to \$1.68 per package. A study by the New Hampshire Grocers Association

found that reducing the tax would actually boost revenue by \$12.8 million as the lower tax might draw customers from out of state, according to a House Republicans press release. "As a representative of a border community, I see firsthand how an increase in tobacco taxes hurts our communities," said Rep. D.J. Bettencourt, House Majority Leader, in a statement. "It makes our businesses less competitive and harder to create jobs. For the New Hampshire advantage to having any meaning we need to actually have lower taxes than our neighboring states." The tax passed by a roll call vote, 236-93.

• **Nadeau nominated for chief justice:** Superior Court Judge Tina Nadeau got the nod from Gov. John Lynch to be the next chief justice of the superior court system. The Executive Court must confirm the nomination. "Tina Nadeau has distinguished herself as a thoughtful jurist. In her 15 years on the bench, she has proved to be someone who possesses a commitment to justice and an in-depth knowledge of the law," Lynch said in a statement. "Throughout her career she has displayed a deep commitment to the people of New Hampshire and I am confident she will be a strong administrator of the superior courts." Nadeau was appointed to the superior court in 1996 and has presided over several high-profile cases. Nadeau is currently the supervisory justice in Rockingham County. Before being appointed to the bench, Nadeau served as legal counsel to former governor Steve Merrill from 1992 to 1996. Nadeau received a bachelor's

degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1985 and she received her law degree from the former Franklin Pierce Law Center.

• **Latest Innovation Rocks! award announced:** UltraSource understands that in technology-based markets, the speed with which a product gets to market significantly impacts its profitability and viability, particularly when dealing with fiber optic communications and military radio/frequency/microwave products. The sooner a company can develop its components, such as microchips, the sooner those products get to market. That's why the New Hampshire Business Resource Center recognized Hollis-based UltraSource with its "Innovation Rocks!" award for March, according to a state press release. Thanks to the company's UltraFAST program, companies don't have to wait for critical prototypes of ceramic microchips. UltraFAST, which can help companies receive prototype microchips in four to seven days, can cut a product's time to market. UltraSource makes chips for use in high-tech electronic and optical applications, including military communications, fiber optic transmission, infrared detection, automotive radar and specialty medical devices. Visit [www.ultrasource.com](http://www.ultrasource.com). "Innovation Rocks!" is an initiative sponsored by the state Division of Economic Development's Business Resource Center in coordination with Rock 101 and the Pavilion at the Hilton Garden Inn Manchester Downtown.

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## CLASSES

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Wednesday, April 6 • 7:30 to 9:00 PM

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## A Colon Cancer Screening Saved My Life

"God was on my side," said Wilma, a patient of Deborah Dennis, MD, a family medicine physician at SJ Family Medical Center-Nashua. When Wilma went to see Dr. Dennis due to stomach cramps, she thought it would turn out to be nothing more than diverticulitis. Wilma agreed to go see Dr. Richard Dai, a gastroenterologist, for a colon cancer screening test called a colonoscopy.

Just before her exam, Wilma changed her diet and her cramping stopped, but Dr. Dennis convinced her to proceed with the colonoscopy. Although Wilma was reluctant and fearful to undergo the procedure, she ultimately decided to do so. Dr. Dai discovered two large growths, one of which was cancerous. Wilma was sent for more extensive surgery to remove the growths. The surgeons found that although the tumor was already quite large, the cancer had not yet spread to her lymph nodes or surrounding tissues.

"The worst part is the prep, but other than that it's a piece of cake," Wilma said. "You just keep going back; keep on top of it and you beat it. If it weren't for my physicians, I wouldn't be here today."

"Dr. Dai says I'm his walking miracle," Wilma said. "I didn't need any further treatment because they caught it early enough, thanks to Dr. Dennis insisting that I go in."

She encourages everyone she knows to go in for a colonoscopy screening, saying, "If I can help one person, just one, it would be wonderful. More would be even better." She can't emphasize enough how wonderful and supportive the physicians and staff at St. Joseph Hospital are, noting that she was treated with extreme kindness.

Colon cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States, but when detected early through regular screenings, it's 90% curable. The American Cancer Society recommends colon cancer screenings for anyone over the age of 50. Talk to your physician about your need to schedule a colon cancer screening test.



## ask the doctor At what age and how often should you have a colonoscopy?



Timothy Scherer, MD, Board-Certified Gastroenterologist, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Nashua Gastroenterology

For the average-risk person, screening colonoscopies should begin at age 50 and occur every ten years if your results are normal. If there are adenomatous (precancerous) polyps present and removed, then you will need more frequent screenings (I recommend at the very latest every five years).

People who are considered at an increased risk for colon and rectal cancer include those with a personal history of colon cancer or adenomatous polyps in the colon, a family history of colon cancer or polyps, inflammatory bowel disease and a host of genetic syndromes. For those with a family history, recommendations vary based on the age and relationship of the family member.

For those with one first-degree relative (parent or sibling) diagnosed with colon cancer or a large polyp under the age of 60 or with two first-degree relatives diagnosed with colon cancer at any age, screening should begin at age 40 or 10 years younger than the age of their relative's diagnosis and should occur every five years if their colonoscopy is normal.

When a first-degree relative is diagnosed with polyps or colon cancer over the age of 60, then the first colonoscopy should be done at age 40 and be repeated every 10 years, according to current recommendations.

If there is a concern for a genetic syndrome due to a very young family member (under the age of 40) or multiple family members, then screening may start even sooner and occur more frequently. This should be discussed with your healthcare provider.

Those with one second-degree relative (aunt, uncle or grandparent) are treated as normal risk patients. When two second-degree relatives have been diagnosed with colon cancer, then I recommend that screening start at age 40 and occur every ten years if the colonoscopy is normal.

Please note that these recommendations are only for asymptomatic patients for colon cancer screening and surveillance. Should a person have other clinical issues, such as abdominal pain, gastrointestinal bleeding or a host of other conditions, then a diagnostic evaluation may be needed, and a discussion should occur with your healthcare provider.



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## Pheasant Lane Mall to get a facelift

Now celebrating its 25th year, the Pheasant Lane Mall in Nashua is getting a complete makeover, and that means new carpets, tiles, handrails, lighting and paint jobs.

Mall officials announced their plans last week for renovations to the mall, which opened in 1986. Work will begin next month and it is expected to take about a year to finish.

It's not an expansion, though the mall, which currently has 152 stores, will take in a new flagship two-story Dick's Sporting Goods store, as well as Burton's Grill and Red Robin Gourmet Burgers.

Ron Hanson, regional vice president for the Simon Property Group, which owns the mall, estimated the renovations, which will cost nearly \$10 million, and the new stores and restaurants would add about 200 jobs to the one million-square-foot facility. The renovations would include new interior and exterior features, such as restroom upgrades, redesigned mall entrances — with an emphasis on the entrance to the mall itself, rather than individual stores — landscaping, flooring

and lighting. There will be new carpeting and new finishes. Renovations would include the latest in energy-saving fixtures, officials said.

Vincent Cosco, the mall's general manager, said the planning has been in the works for four or five years. Cosco said the economy did play a role in the project's taking some time to come together.

"We're ready to put shovel into tile and make things new again," Cosco said.

All of the work will take place at night so the mall will remain open throughout the renovation.

Hanson said New England, including Massachusetts malls in Burlington and on the north shore, has been the center of the company's development in recent years. He said the renovations would touch "virtually every aspect of the mall."

"This will put us in position to be competitive in a very, very competitive market," Hanson said.

Renovations will also include a redesign of the food court main entrance, featuring a two-story glass entranceway. There will be soft seating added throughout the mall and the new design will feature warm, neutral colors to enhance and highlight stores. —Jeff Mucciarone

## New home-redesign company in town

Naturally, it's more economical to use what you have when it comes to redecorating your home. That's what Kerri Durkee, and her new company, Functional Home Redesigns, is trying to build off.

Along with redecorating, for which Durkee likes to use as many items as possible that the homeowner already has, she does home staging before homes are put up for sale. The Atkinson-based company officially opened last summer.

It can be somewhat like a puzzle when she goes into a home for the first time, she said.

"Sometimes a fresh set of eyes coming into a house, 'This piece would probably fit better functionally here....,' she said, adding she looks into cupboards, basements and attics trying to come up with ideas and items that will work. "Everybody has different styles and it's fun to see the types of things that people buy.... It's interesting to see how you can put things together in different ways. I just love it."

Durkee, who also works in marketing for Comcast, is trying to build Functional Home Redesigns ([www.functionalthomedesigns.com](http://www.functionalthomedesigns.com)) on the side. The company is focusing on a client base of southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts.

"It's fun," she said. "It's not even work for me. It's my passion and I'm really trying to make it work."

While she does try to do as much as possible with what's already there, she does have to go out and do some shopping for clients.

"I have no problem with shopping," she said.

Home staging is particularly of interest now as the home-buying season starts to gear up. Durkee said staging isn't particularly expensive but can pay big dividends in both the time it takes to buy and the final dollar amount.

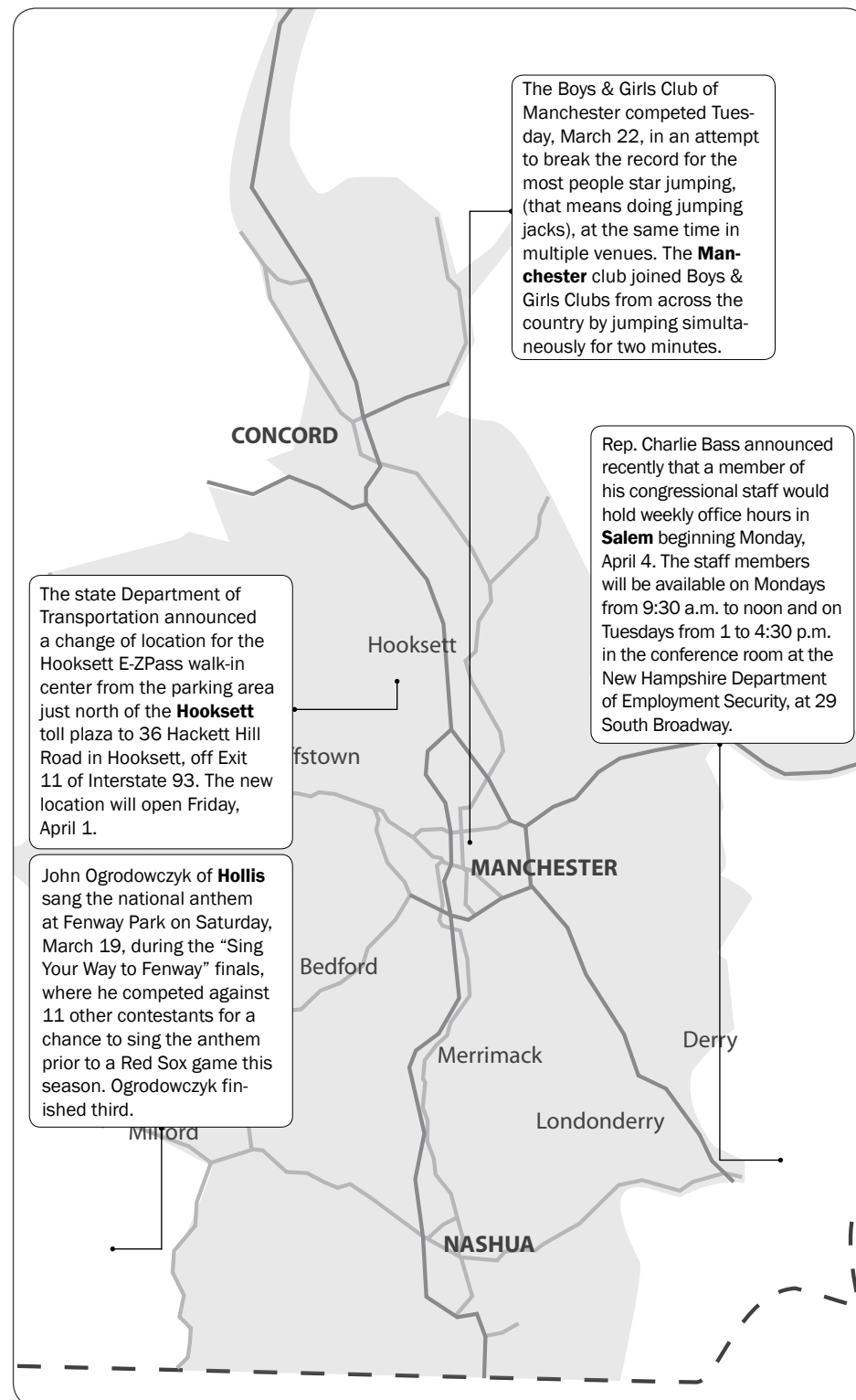
Durkee has been taking classes for years in redesign, as well as doing redesigns for friends and family. She said she kept telling herself once her kids get a little older, she'd try out a redesign business. But she kept putting it off. Then, her brother was diagnosed with cancer.

"I thought about it...and we're not guaranteed tomorrow, so why not do something you love now?" Durkee said. "I ended up jumping in with both feet."

Growing up, Durkee said, she always liked to draw and she's always been creative. Her parents wouldn't let her go to art school; her dad wanted her to get a business degree. Durkee joked that her father was afraid she'd end up a starving artist living on the beach. She ended up with a degree in marketing and later obtained an M.B.A.

"I've always had an interest in the creative side of things," Durkee said.

—Jeff Mucciarone





## HIPPO POLITICS

# Marijuana returns

New bill passes in new NH House

By Jeff Mucciarone  
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Gov. John Lynch was faced in 2009 with a bill that would have legalized marijuana for terminally ill patients. It also would have allowed for the creation of three dispensaries or “compassion centers,” and would have allowed patients to grow their own marijuana. Lynch didn’t like the sound of that, particularly the oversight challenges the bill presented then, so he vetoed it.

Supporters are back now with a new bill that they say addresses Lynch’s concerns. There would still be three dispensaries, but patients would not be allowed to grow their own. The bill, House Bill 442, recently passed the House 221-96. It’s on to the Senate now.

The 2009 bill fell two votes short in the Senate of overriding Lynch’s veto. While Republicans can override any veto they want, this bill wouldn’t seem to be one they would all rally around in numbers. Just one Republican Senator voted for the override two years ago.

Two years ago, Democrats dominated both houses of the legislature. Now, in even more decided fashion, Republicans own control. On the surface, it might not seem a better environment for the bill’s passage. But that libertarian streak that often gets talked about in reference to New Hampshire Republicans might be just what the bill’s doctor ordered.

Kirk McNeil, executive director of the New Hampshire Coalition for Common Sense Marijuana Policy, said that libertarian streak should be helpful this time around. McNeil believes bill supporters have addressed Lynch’s concerns, which centered on cultivation and distribution.

“It’s a huge difference,” McNeil said of the bill’s changes, particularly the fact that patients wouldn’t be permitted to grow their own marijuana. “It addresses some of the concerns Gov. Lynch brought up when he vetoed it.”

The Coalition believes it has the public’s backing on the bill, as it believes it did two years ago. A 2008 poll, referenced on the Coalition’s website (nhcommonsense.org), had 71 percent of state residents in favor of allowing seriously and terminally ill patients to use and grow marijuana if their doctors recommended it.

### Dispensing and regulating

The three dispensaries would have to be run as nonprofit organizations, and their permitting licenses would go directly to the state Department of Health and Human Ser-



vices. Having just three would hopefully make for easy oversight, without putting an undue burden on Health and Human Services, which currently is overburdened in general.

The bill would be revenue-neutral, at least on paper, “as much as anyone can determine,” McNeil said, adding the financial component is particularly important now, considering the fiscal concerns of the current legislature.

“I don’t think it’s a partisan issue this time around,” McNeil said. “I hear different concerns from those who object, and those concerns can break along party lines, but the support does not break around party lines.”

“But it does allow the sickest patients to have medical marijuana,” McNeil said.

Fifteen states and the District of Columbia have some kind of medicinal marijuana law. That gives New Hampshire officials a chance to learn from other states’ successes and failures.

“Sort of a best-practices scenario,”

McNeil said.

### Partisan issue?

“I don’t think it’s a partisan issue this time around,” McNeil said. “I hear different concerns from those who object, and those concerns can break along party lines, but the support does not break around party lines.”

Republican objectors tend to fall on the side of law-enforcement concerns, while Democrats who oppose it are concerned with marijuana’s status as an illegal substance at the federal level.

“But the vast majority of people are right in the middle,” McNeil said.

The key with this bill is that it is geared for the sickest patients — it’s not designed to hand out marijuana to people suffering from anxiety. Rather it’s geared to people, for example, dealing with chemotherapy or suffering with an “end of life terminal disease,” McNeil said.

McNeil is going to try to sit down with each of the state’s 24 senators individually.

“What I’ve found is, when I get the opportunity to talk to someone about the bill, and when they’re honest about their objections, we can almost always come to an understanding, and not 100 percent of the time, but they’ll often take the time to listen and consider it,” McNeil said, adding there can be a knee-jerk “no” reaction to the bill.

McNeil said that Lynch refused last time to meet directly with patients who would have benefited from the bill before he vetoed it. McNeil is hoping that if Lynch is planning to pick up the veto pen again now, he will meet with those patients.

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## PRIMARY 2012

# Fresh or familiar?

## GOP candidates at different points in careers

By Adam Coughlin and Jeff Mucciarone  
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

In today's polarizing society, it should be no surprise the possible 2012 presidential primary candidates fall into two categories on opposite sides of the spectrum. There are your national newcomers like Michele Bachmann, Tim Pawlenty and Rick Santorum and then there are your familiar faces like Newt Gingrich, Mitt Romney and Rudy Giuliani. The question at the primary will be: in these trying times do voters want the potential of a new candidate or the comfort of an old friend?

The different approaches these "potential candidates" (we use potential because almost into April no one seems to actually want to be president, except for Pawlenty, who announced he was forming an exploratory committee earlier this week) take as far as campaigning clearly depend on which category they fall into. This was quite evident last week in events held by Bachmann and Gingrich.

Both spoke at fundraisers, although Bachmann attended one to raise money for the Republican Party, while Gingrich's was for The Plus Company, a nonprofit company that empowers people with disabilities.

While Bachmann is the darling of the Tea Party, even the Tea Party itself is a new political movement, and so she doesn't carry the name recognition of a Gingrich. (Last week, the Tea Party in South Carolina told Bachmann to wait until 2016 to run for president.) The room was full at the Courtyard Marriott in Nashua and a speaker had already settled the audience when Bachmann entered the room to a standing ovation.

Gingrich's entrance to the 20th Annual Wild Irish breakfast on St. Patrick's Day couldn't have been more unceremonious. People were still standing and chatting and the room wasn't even full when he walked in, shook a few hands and then went to his seat at the head table.

Bachmann's Minnesota accent does give her a bit of Sarah Palin but she distances herself from those comparisons. The 2008 election is remembered as a monumental one for women, yet Hillary Clinton was the clear Democratic favorite who lost to a less experienced rival and, while Palin was on the doorstep of the vice-presidency, the circus that surrounds her probably does not advance the cause. Given that, is a woman actually a step farther away or a step closer from the White House today than in '08?

Regardless, Bachmann is a fine orator who knows how to rally her base. While she gets bashed nationally for her mistake-prone tongue (really, shouldn't her staff have caught her Concord mistake before she repeated the gaffe a second time?), she does make a strong argument for the Republican cause. Yet, to do so, she uses a great deal of doom and gloom. Several times during her Nashua speech she referred to the 2012 presidential elec-

tion as essentially the most monumental moment in history. While there is no doubt an urgency in the air, in our culture of 24-hour news cycles, we tend to think the current crisis is the greatest ever lived.

Gingrich, who wears the scars of more than one political war, has a much more even hand. In his comments at the Wild Irish Breakfast, which were not intended to be serious, he made one lucid point. He said the challenges of the day always seem so large, yet history moves on and people solve problems. This is the voice of a man who has been through it and come out the other side. And while it is refreshing to hear someone with a bit of perspective, it is easy to forget that Gingrich was once far more polarizing than Bachmann.

When you have been in the American consciousness for as long as Gingrich, there are no real personal secrets. That is why he was able to attend the breakfast, a roast in which everything from his infidelities to his insecurities about running for office was mocked. Imagine a political newcomer like Bachmann participating in that event (at least willingly — she was clearly mocked behind her back).

It is critical for political newcomers to shape their own story as they enter the fray — not that they can control everything. Even though she had a packed house and was ready to deliver a rousing speech, protestors, under the guise of being interested college students, snuck in and created a ruckus. To Bachmann's credit, she handled it with class and the protestors only seemed to enliven her and the crowd. A few days later, when a speaker was referring to Viagra, Gingrich and the American dream together, the former speaker took it in stride as well.

• **Rudy Giuliani**, the former mayor of New York City and presidential candidate, appeared at a fundraiser dinner with Manchester Republicans last Friday, March 18. Giuliani has said he is considering running.

• **Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour**, former senator **Rick Santorum** and former speaker **Newt Gingrich** — all potential presidential candidates — differed in how they responded to President Barack Obama's decision to bomb Libya, according to a Politico report. Barbour said now wasn't the time to critique the administration's handling of the situation. Santorum said Obama waited too long to respond and Gingrich asserted that other countries, such as North Korea and Iran, were bigger threats to the U.S. Other candidates did not respond to Politico.

• **Politicalscoop.wmur.com** reported that **Donald Trump** was looking to set up a meeting with Rep. Charlie Bass. According to the report, Bass said he was willing to meet.

• **Ron Paul** was slated to make a visit to New Hampshire this Thursday and Friday, including an appearance at the Dover Republicans' annual Lincoln-Reagan Dinner on Friday, March 25.



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## Clean comedian

Making strangers laugh keeps Karl Zahn happy

**Comedian and radio show host Karl Zahn, of Milford, has twice appeared with Dennis Miller and worked as a co-host on Jennifer Horn's radio show prior to her 2008 run for Congress. Zahn has a radio show, *Crosswinds with Karl*, on WSMN 1590 AM every Sunday from noon to 1 p.m. Visit [www.karlfromnh.com](http://www.karlfromnh.com).**

**Q:** *Your comedy, how would you describe it?*

... First and foremost, I work clean.... My most risqué stuff is probably PG-13, the idea being that I felt like using curse words is cheating. ... It's more difficult without using them. ... And it opens more doors as far as where you can take your comedy. ... As far as my style, I would say Dennis Miller is one of my biggest mentors. It's wild that I've ended up sitting in with him a couple times. I like the language, building a joke. I really like using the language. Anything from topical, observation, political, I kind of go all over the map. ... I don't do stuff about the tsunami, 9/11, kids with Down syndrome. I know comics that go all over the place...sometimes that can be treacherous.

*Looking back, when did you realize you were funny?*

I don't know if it was an epiphanal moment. I figured out, I was in my sixth-grade social studies class and my teacher asked if we knew what a stereotype was, and I blurted out a typewriter with two speakers. And that just bowled him over. It's not that clever, but I remember that moment, like "wow." ... I didn't do standup comedy until about 15 or 16 years ago. I was in a real down period in my life... I think the point is comedy can [come from] a lot of dark places.

*[Zahn has worked in trucking and excavation for 20 years.]*

I can't quite do the comedy full-time.... Not quite there yet and I may never be there. I don't think anyone's in this for the money.

*You also have a radio show. What's that all about?*

... Jennifer Horn was doing a show five days per week.... Her and I met when I began a citizen campaign to toughen up child predator laws.... Then I was going in with Jennifer for an hour, kind of the funny sidekick. ... When she ran for Congress, she had to give up the show. They offered me her spot and I couldn't do it five days per week ... so they gave me an hourly, weekly show on Sundays. ... I kind of fell in love with the medium of radio. ...there's something about radio that is cool.... There are hardly any reasons to have radio any more, what with satellite and XM. ... In a way it's like a newspaper. People want ink on their fingers. A newspaper is more than just a place to read your news.

*It's something tangible.*

Almost nostalgic. That's how I fell in love with radio. It worked good with the comedy business... Radio really keeps you sharp. ...

*Because it keeps you on your toes?*

You've got to love chaos a little bit. ... I think you really have to have an affinity for chaos in the media business.

*What's the show like?*

I could be discussing anything from the



potential meltdown of a nuclear plant in Japan or New Hampshire as home to the world's tiniest horse. It could be anything from a serious subject matter really to the absurd, probably

depending on my mood more than anything else. Sept. 11, I guess, that's how I became interested in politics. ... I hate politics but I understand at the same time that these people have a direct effect on our lives.... We all owe it to the next generation to try to make this a better place. ...

*Do you draw on politics for your comedy?*

I definitely do. I'm conservative but I guess I'm pretty moderate. I worked for John McCain. Because of that Republicans would say I'm anything but [conservative], and liberals would say, I don't know. It's all about the person to me. That's why Michele Bachmann, that remark [when she incorrectly referred to Concord, N.H., as the place where the Revolutionary War started in her recent New Hampshire visit] means absolutely nothing to me. I barely know where Lexington, Mass., is. It doesn't mean she wouldn't make a good president. I think we're looking at the wrong set of skills. Obviously, I'm a McCain fan, he's a reasonable guy...a compassionate man. ...I also think he has the leadership skills and he's demonstrated a willingness to piss off either party. ... he's always a guy who puts what's best for the country ahead of anything else.... I think the country missed an opportunity, to tell you the truth.

*What do you think about the presidential primary field so far?*

I don't see anybody who looks like they're really about to run. ...I don't think Romney can win it. Gingrich, I just think he'd be a spoiler. I don't think Republicans have anyone too strong. ... I think our country is really ready for an everyman, but maybe not a George W. Bush everyman [laughing]. I just don't know that even one guy can fix it. I think things are really unraveled, not just in our country. Is there anyone who can fix it or do we all need to fix it?

*Where else do you look for comedic inspiration?*

I might look to news stuff, topical stuff is nice. ... I think one of the funniest guys on the planet is Brian Regan. You can bring your grandmother, your mother, your 5-year-old daughter and no one is going to be offended. He's just brilliant and you'll be gasping for air. ... The thing I like about comedy...technology can't change it. ... At the end of the day, it's a guy, a microphone and a stool. And it's been that way since Jack Benny. At the end of the day, it's just you and the audience. It's all about making strangers laugh.

—Jeff Mucciarone



MARCH 24, 2011

## Be careful with donations

Attorney General Michael Delaney issued some tips recently to New Hampshire residents so they can avoid being scammed in their efforts to help out the victims of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. Delaney said residents should ask a number of questions to ensure a charitable organization is legitimate. Delaney said not to respond to unsolicited e-mails, beware of people representing themselves as survivors, verify the legitimacy of a nonprofit organization, only open e-mail attachments from known senders and do not give personal or financial information to anyone who solicits contributions.

QOL: -1

Comment: To report a potential scam, call 888-468-4454.

## Take to the Internet, shoppers

New Hampshire was ranked number three in a report about online shopping conducted by shopping engine Extrabux ([www.extrabux.com](http://www.extrabux.com)). Extrabux considered average shipping time and costs, state sales tax policies and sales tax rates. The report found the wait time for items was slightly longer here but the lack of a sales tax bumped the Granite State up the rankings. Mississippi and Delaware were ranked above New Hampshire, while Hawaii and Alaska were at the bottom.

QOL: +1

Comment: The report suggested using the money saved on the sales tax on expedited shipping. QOL suggests waiting and saving a few bucks.

## First in the states still having primaries

While the presidential primary is a source of great pride for many in the Granite State, other states are thinking about eliminating theirs. Well, not completely, but states like California, Missouri and Alabama are considering shifting their presidential primaries so they no longer stand alone and are instead combined with state primaries. The idea is to save costs in financially strapped states.

QOL: +1

Comment: Making our primary seem that much more special.

## Godzilla threatens Manchester

Godzilla, the legendary monster, has recently been spotted crushing Double Midnight Comics, 245 Maple St., Manchester — on a comic book cover, that is. IDW Publishing has created 75 alternative covers in North America for its newest Godzilla comic, *Godzilla: Kingdom of Monsters*. One cover shows the Manchester-based comic shop. The comic was scheduled for release on Wednesday, March 23.

QOL: +1

Comment: Godzilla has a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame and an MTV Lifetime Achievement Award.

## True Manchester Story

*Jordan, Jesse, Go!* is a comedy podcast vaguely about pop culture but generally about whatever its hosts Jesse Thorn and Jordan Morris want to spend an hour or so riffing on — perfect stuff for livening up your day when you're doing data entry or cleaning the house. On a recent episode (Episode 165 from Feb. 25), the guest was D.C. Pierson from the comedy troupe Derrick Comedy. You may remember that name from Derrick's movie *Mystery Team*, which was filmed in and around Manchester in 2008 (our story about that production can be found at [archives.hippopress.com/index\\_july17\\_2008.html](http://archives.hippopress.com/index_july17_2008.html)). On the *Jordan, Jesse, Go!* episode, Pierson tells some fun stories about their experiences shooting the movie, specifically the strip club scenes (apparently, it's hard to convince exotic dancers to play exotic dancers in a movie). Check it out on iTunes or go to [www.maximumfun.org](http://www.maximumfun.org) and click on "Jordan, Jesse, Go!" at the top of the page.

QOL score: +1

Comments: It's not every day that you come across tales of movie-making from New Hampshire.

QOL score: 54

Net change: +3

QOL this week: 57

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## DAVE LONG'S HIPPO SPORTS

## LONGSHOTS

# The bloom is off the Rose on ESPN's Fab 5 show



We had one of those events last week that crossed all sorts of cultural boundaries and struck a national chord of outrage in some places almost immediately after it happened. It came in a “30 for 30” documentary on ESPN telling the story of the Fab 5 as they stormed college basketball in the early 1990s. And it generated passion, national attention, class resentment and inter- and intra-racial resentments and was the latest illustration of a national double standard on how we talk about race.

While the art of putting the show together was, to steal a phrase, fabulous, I'm not sure you can say it was journalistically credible. Not when the guy dropping the biggest bombs was also the executive producer, Fab 5-er **Jalen Rose**. I'm not saying that's all bad, but it reflected how he looked at things and the content was shaded toward his own recollections and biases. So it's more like a TV version of what I do — a column, where my opinion is central to the case I'm trying to make. But in my case you know from the start it's part of the package. Here that was murky.

As for the story, I remember it a little differently. I don't quite recall the Fab 5 as the Beatles of the '90s college basketball that swept everyone along. They swept many along, but I wasn't one of them. Why? Because I'm anti-hype, and as the hype grows I tend to make the subject have to prove it more before I buy an ounce. Like a few years ago when the UL kept intimating that a Trinity team loaded with talent was the greatest New Hampshire high school basketball team ever assembled based on AAU standing and the interest of recruiters, before it won anything. But in the end that team never made it past the semi-finals and had a losing record in Durham.

It was like that with the Fab 5, which if you don't know the story was ballyhooed as the greatest recruiting class ever. It brought the country's top recruit, **Chris Webber**, together with **Rose**, **Juwan Howard**, **Ray Jackson** and **Jimmy King** who all were among the country's Top 50 high school players. And right from the start all five were starters. It was rare, no doubt, and it caught the attention of a lot of folks.

The second reason was how they played. I don't like what I call streetballers — which I define as players who put style, flair and yanking on the same plane as winning. Those who've GOT to throw down the windmill dunk on a breakaway to bring attention to themselves rather than make the less risky, less flashy lay-up to get the same two points. Always saw it as selfish and thus I have an aversion to it. Plus I liked Duke, who played as a unit, was tough, didn't dance and won. Some people like steak and others like fish — that's all it was.

But the dividing line between those who liked steak and fish was a cultural thing. The rapper Ice Tea says in the show that their game was what the black community liked. And so did most kids no matter what they looked like. And with the baggy shorts, earrings, black sox and their showmanship they embraced it. Noth-

ing new, but it did come at a time of heightened racial tensions following the **Rodney King** beating in L.A., the cops involved beating the rap and a flood of rap music being belted out with cop killing lyrics. That heightened the tension and depending on your point of view they were identified or labeled as part of that culture.

So they were closer to **Muhammad Ali** in the early years shouting, “I am the greatest” after beating **Sonny Liston** — who was not embraced by white America then. And while they were just teenagers having fun, what people from **Deion Sanders** to **John Rocker** to Georgetown under **John Thompson**, who court attention for themselves or play the us-against-the-world-card, never seem to get is that doing that opens you up to scrutiny from others. And when they come back in a way you don't like, you've got no one to blame but yourself.

Driving a lot of it, at least with Rose, seemed to be resentment. It was behind the bomb he dropped in saying that when he was 17 he thought the black kids who went to Duke were “Uncle Toms.” Those are fighting words which suggested the Duke kids weren't black enough for him and **Grant Hill** fired back in a New York Times op-ed defending his school, teammates, upbringing and that he never lost to the Fab 5 during his time at Duke.

That subject is the third rail for the media. Specifically, what those who are not African-Americans can and can't say about race. Free speech? Forget it. You'd better be careful what you say and I would venture if a white guy offered the kind of things Rose said, he would be looking for a job the next day. Just ask **Rush Limbaugh**, who got bounced from ESPN for idiotic comments (I know, does he make any other kind?) about **Donovan McNabb** and the liberal media. Or **Don Imus**, who got fired for making equally idiotic comments about the Rutgers women's basketball team that brought **Al Sharpton** out of the woodwork. Though he was nowhere to be found when Rutgers alum and sharp Imus critic **Cappie Pondexter** Tweeted after the disaster in Japan idiotic comments ranging from incredibly insensitive to racist and nothing happened to her with her job in the WNBA. Why?

While Rose used the wrong choice of words at best, he shouldn't be fired. He was being honest about something from a long time ago and that started the dialogue. And I also understand resentment one may have for living in a one-parent household in a bad neighborhood. But to take it out on Hill and others was wrong. And that's a place it fell off the rails. There was no one to make him answer to that, as there would have been with an objective reporter doing the piece.

That person might also have brought up the results of Duke recruiting who they did, over the Fab 5, which was at the root of his resentment. First, if Jalen went there, to quote **Lou Gorman**, where does he play? Point guard? I don't think so, as **Bobby Hurley** was in the midst of playing that position better than almost anyone over the last 30 years. And not at the 3, where Hill was arguably the best player on teams that went to four straight Final Fours. Then there was Rose being in what the papers called a dope house. He disputes it, and so does his coach **Steve Fisher**. But the cops



were not in the piece so there was no real context there. And Fisher got fired a few years later when it came to light that Webber and two others had taken major payments from a program benefactor — who, oh by the way, was running a gambling operation. Webber denied it to a grand jury and later pleaded guilty to perjury. So if you add it up: 5-0 vs. Michigan in Hill's time at Duke, two national titles, no arrests and no sanctions. You tell me Coach K did the wrong thing.

To me the lasting, most scrutinized part that should be taken from this is how much EVERY-ONE was making off the craze surrounding the Fabbers — except them — poor kids from the inner city. You can tell that grated on Webber and Rose and is an indictment of how players are

exploited by schools, the NCAA, Nike and others.

In the end, love it or hate it, it was an important show, I think. Rose and all others involved deserve credit for that. Because instead of just a trip down memory lane it looked at the real issues beyond the games, with a degree of real, if raw, honesty you don't always see on TV. And as a result it makes you think, which is what the best columns make you do.

*Dave Long can be reached at [dlong@hippo-press.com](mailto:dlong@hippo-press.com). He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM – The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.*

## PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

# BG wins the all-Catholic state final in hoops

**The Big Story:** Thanks to a 19-10 fourth quarter, top-seeded Bishop Guertin took the all-Catholic final of the Division I State Basketball Tournament. It came in a 54-46 win over Trinity and was the Cardinals' first hoop title in 26 years, since they won the battle of Nashua in the 1983 final during the Skip Barry era. Gatorade Mr. NH Basketball winner Connor **Green (peace)** and **Sean McClung** led the way with 22 points apiece. On the Pioneers side **Wol Majong** and (**zsa, zsa**) **Mabor Gabriel** combined for 36 points. And to show how dominant the BG duo was, Green and McClung accounted for 82 percent of BG's 54 points, 84 percent of their 44 field goal attempts, 81 percent of made field goals and 88 percent of their made free throws. The win brought the Cardinals to 20-2 on the year, while Trinity finished at 18-4.

**Sports 101:** With the UCLA basketball dynasty in the news thanks to an HBO documentary we're reminded it is the leader in Tournament history with players from their teams being named MVP of the Final Four nine times. How many of the winners can you name?

**Hot Ticket:** This is actually the other big story, where you can get a ticket. It's the arrival of the NCAA Northeast Regional Hockey Tournament at the V this weekend. Game one at 4 p.m. on Saturday pits UNH against sixth-seed Miami of Ohio to be followed by Merrimack and Notre Dame at 7:30 p.m. The winners play on Sunday night at 8 p.m. Tickets, as they say, are still available.

**Hot Ticket II:** Such a deal. Anyone looking to purchase a 10-game package of Fisher Cats tickets at half price can do so starting this Friday by going to the website of WZID

at [www.wzid.com](http://www.wzid.com).

**All-Star Weekend:** On the hockey side of the ledger it was the Reds 4-3 over the Whites at the Everett Arena in Concord on Saturday night in the annual High School Coaches Association senior All-Star Hockey Classic that broke down to squads of Reds and Whites. The scoring in the contest had a distinct local flavor as Concord's **Pat Lacasse** opened it for Team White with an unassisted goal at 7:55 of the first period, which ended at 1-1. The reds got on the board thanks to a goal from Merrimack's **Eric (live and) Glendye** at 5:11 of the second period on an assist from **Trevor Senovick** of Bedford to make it 2-1. In the third period Central's **Mac (aroni and cheese) Meyers** got the fourth goal on assists from Glendye and Senovick, while the final score came at 13:36 on a goal by the aptly named (**Bishop**) **Brady Gut** of Bishop Brady. The assists were credited to Concord's **Lacasse** twins, **Nicholas** and **Pat**.

**Alumni News:** Well the career wasn't over for **Stephanie Murphy** after all, as Boston College got an invitation to the women's NIT. And the Londonderry senior put it to good use by scoring 18 and grabbing seven rebounds in an 85-62 Eagle win over Yale on Thursday and followed it with six and five in an 86-59 rout of St. Joe's in round II.

**Thumbs Up:** To the Legends of Hockey for providing the jerseys worn by the Red and White teams in the annual HS Hockey classic.

**Sport 101 Answer:** The nine Final Four MVP winners from UCLA are Walt Hazzard ('64), Kareem Abdul Jabbar as Lew Alcindor ('67-'69), Sidney Wicks ('70), Bill Walton ('72, '73), Richard Washington ('75) and Ed O'Bannon ('95).

### The Numbers

**0** – losses for the Milford boys in running the table to go 22-0 which they closed out with a 48-42 win over Portsmouth in the D-II final behind 18 from **Mike O'Loughlin** and 14 from **Jamie Holder**.

**1** – chance in 35 trillion to complete a perfect March Madness basketball bracket.

**11** – consecutive minutes Milford held Portsmouth

scoreless during the first half of its victory in the state basketball championship game.

**12.60** – ERA for Sox closer Jonathan Papelbon after his first six spring appearances, which should be giving pause to run-away optimism in Red Sox Nation.

**41.5** – career three-point shooting percentage of Concord's **Matt Bonner**, which is 11th best ALL-

Time in the NBA just three spots between soon-to-be-Hall of Famer **Steve Nash's** 42.9 percent and 90 spots ahead of Celtics legend **Larry Bird's** 37.5 percent at 101st.

**787** – million dollars paid to the NCAA by CBS and TNT to televise the men's basketball tournament per year in the new deal that pays them \$11 BILLION over the next 14 years.



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# HIPPO'S BEST OF 2011

## Your favorite stuff

Photo on page 15 and on the cover is of Greg Kretschmar, who won best local radio show host and whose show, *Greg and the Morning Buzz*, won best local radio show. Photos taken by Gil Talbot, [giltalbot.com](http://giltalbot.com).

What is your favorite thing about life here in southern New Hampshire? What is your favorite salon, favorite radio station, favorite Italian restaurant?

More than ever before, Hippo's readers went online to answer those questions and many more. Thousands and thousands of people voted in our annual Best of 2011 readers' poll. We asked for "Bests" in about 100 categories — best art in a public space, best Laundromat, best local radio personality, best sledding hill and, of course, oodles of "bests" about food.

After weeks of counting, here are the results. As always, the winners here have been chosen by Hippo readers — no nominees, no editors' picks. The winners represent your picks for the best things about life in southern New Hampshire. And the best are...





### Best local radio show host

**Best of the best:** Greg Kretschmar, *Greg and the Morning Buzz* on Rock 101, 101.1 FM WGIR-FM Manchester, 100.3 WHEB-FM Portsmouth, 101.9 FM in Keene and 93.9 FM in Lebanon. He's been broadcasting in the morning since 1987 on Rock 101. "I think it's awesome," Kretschmar said of the award. "It's an honor, that's for sure, especially so because it's actually voted on by the readers, which is nice. It's not something we campaign for, so that kind of makes it extra special." The show, which he said is like five people hanging out in the living room talking about "the things you talk about with your friends and family," airs from 5:30 to 10 a.m. weekdays. "We all have different perspectives," Kretschmar said. He said there's not a lot his regular listeners don't know about him. "I'm not much different than the person you hear on the radio," Kretschmar said. Kretschmar said The Beatles and Aerosmith got him hooked on radio. "I always knew, that's what I wanted to do, even as a kid," he said. He said he couldn't do it without the team the show has in place: "You really have to trust the people you are on the air with and they have to trust you. ... and what I love the most is the ability to have a discourse with so many people on a given day.... It's a learning experience to me every day." "We're regular folks," he said. "We appreciate when something like this happens. It really means a lot to us. We work hard at it." Visit [www.morningbuzzonline.com](http://www.morningbuzzonline.com).

### THE ARTS

#### Best live theater show

**Best of the best:** *Rent* at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, 668-5588, [www.palacetheatre.org](http://www.palacetheatre.org). The show ran in spring 2010.

**Best of Concord:** *Monty Python's Spamalot* at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St. in Concord, 225-1111, [www.ccanh.com](http://www.ccanh.com). The show came to the Cap Center in October 2010.

**Best of Manchester:** *A Christmas Carol* at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, 668-5588, [www.palacetheatre.org](http://www.palacetheatre.org).



**Runner up:** Mike Morin, *NH in the Morning* on 95.7 WZID-FM. "I'm grateful first of all that listeners took the time to put my name in, so I don't take that for granted,"

said Morin, who has 40 years of radio experience. "I like to think we're part of [listeners'] ... morning routine. It's by virtue of having been there a long time." Morin appreciates connecting with listeners each day. "I like the fact that I actually feel like I'm connected to people who care about me, and I care about them," Morin said, and he likes running into people in public who tell him they enjoyed something he talked about on the show. Catch Morin from 5 to 10 a.m. weekdays.



**Honorable mention:** Nazy, *Nazy & the JYY Wake Up Crew* on 105.5 WJYY-FM. "I think it's awesome, absolutely awesome," Nazy said of this honor. "I think what it is

is that I'm a real guy. I'm not pretending to be anybody on the air. Who you hear on the air is who I am in real life. It's the same guy." Nazy thinks listeners appreciate his upbeat attitude on the air. He went to school for television broadcasting and never intended to become a radio DJ, but while he was attending the Art Institute in Boston, a friend pushed him to try radio. He did and loved it, he said. Catch Nazy on the air weekdays from 5:30 to 10 a.m.

The show ran in early December 2010.

**Best of Nashua:** *Guys & Dolls* at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts, at the Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley, 56 Mont Vernon St. in Milford, 672-1002 ext. 20, [www.svbgc.org](http://www.svbgc.org).

#### Best art gallery (not the Currier, which is a museum)

**Best of the best:** McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave. in Concord, 225-2515, [www.mcgowanfineart.com](http://www.mcgowanfineart.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Gardens, 236 Hopkinton Road in Concord, 226-2046, [www.themillbrook-gallery.com](http://www.themillbrook-gallery.com).

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Best visual artist



**Best: Scott Bulger.** “It’s incredibly humbling to have my work appreciated by the public,” wrote Scott Bulger via e-mail. “I do what I do ... because I am compelled to do so, and to have others enjoy the vision that I have is very gratifying.” Bulger began viewing life behind a lens at the age of 12 and was inspired by legendary photographers like Ansel Adams, Elliott Erwitt and Edward Weston. Bulger has developed his own distinct style and published two books of photographs, *A Portrait of the Yucatan* in 2001 and *Khronikos* this past year. “Art and photography give me a voice,” Bulger wrote. “They give me the ability to express myself in a way that I couldn’t otherwise accomplish.” He was also voted by Hippo readers as the Best Arts Educator for his work at

Kimball-Jenkins School of Art and NHTI in Concord. Examples of Bulger’s work are available at [www.scottbulger.com](http://www.scottbulger.com).



**Runner up: Sid Ceaser.** This has been a big year for Sid Ceaser. The Nashua professional creative portrait photographer captured headlines and hearts around the world when he created a movie trailer with Muppets that was a marriage proposal to his long-time girlfriend, Sara Prindiville. “I’m still getting e-mails from people all over the world about it,” Ceaser said. Of his fine art photography, Ceaser said there was nothing else he would rather be doing: “I get to make a living in a creative field.” He works at his Nashua studio, Ceaser Photography, 99 Factory Street Extension, 4th Floor, Nashua, 821-3812, [www.sidceaserfineart.com](http://www.sidceaserfineart.com). Ceaser also teaches a writing class to artists who want to write better captions for their work. Ceaser is represented by McGowan Fine Art Gallery, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515, [www.mcgowanfineart.com](http://www.mcgowanfineart.com).



**Honorable mention: James Chase.** “Awesome!” was how multi-media artist James Chase described getting this award. The 2010 graduate of the New Hampshire Institute of Art described himself as a non-traditional student, as he took one class at a time and stretched his degree out over eight years. Chase is an assemblage artist who works in a variety of media. He gets an idea and likes to roll with it. Chase is an arts commissioner and often hosts workshops for high school students on assemblage and juxtaposing layers. In his own work he is spending a lot of

time with printmaking. His work can be found at [www.neverfading.com](http://www.neverfading.com).

Best arts educator



**Best: Scott Bulger, NHTI Concord.** Visual artist Scott Bulger is passionate about his work and loves teaching. Teaching has rewarded Bulger in a different way than producing his own projects. “When I’m creating my own art, I know what it is that I’m trying to say and do,” Bulger wrote. “When I’m teaching others, sure, I teach them the mechanics of the process, but the ultimate goal is to help them find their own voice and allow them to express themselves in their own way.”



**Runner up: Michael Cirelli, Merrimack High School.** Michael Cirelli’s love of art began when he was a child and it has only gotten stronger. The portrait and landscape photographer is currently working on a documentary about a Connecticut skate shop and previously published several books of his photography. Cirelli is able to translate all this experience into the classroom at Merrimack High. He said his students appreciate his advice because they know he has lived it and is able to tell them different paths they can pursue in photography. “I can tell them about the ups and downs of the industry,” Cirelli said.



**Honorable mention: Robin Peringer, Nashua School District visual arts director.** In November Robin Peringer had a brain tumor removed, so she has been on extended medical leave but will return to school in the coming weeks. “I never expected this,” Peringer said of her Honorable Mention for Best Arts Educator. “I thought: out of sight, out of mind. Teenagers become more compassionate all the time!” At an early age, Peringer told her parents she was going to be

**Best of Manchester:** Art 3 Gallery, 44 West Brook St. in Manchester, 668-6650, [www.art-3gallery.com](http://www.art-3gallery.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Picker Building, 99 Factory Street Extension in Nashua. See a list of the studios at [www.pickerbuilding.com](http://www.pickerbuilding.com).

Best art in a public space

**Best of Concord:** Concord Arts Market, an outdoor market featuring artists and artisans that runs in the summer on Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Eagle Square in downtown Concord. Find more information on their Facebook page.

**Best of Manchester:** Art on the Wall at City Hall, 1 City Hall Plaza in downtown Manchester, featuring regularly changing exhibits. Find out more at [www.facebook.com/manchesterarts](http://www.facebook.com/manchesterarts).

**Best of Nashua:** Greeley Park Art Show, a two-day art show held in August in Greeley Park in Nashua.

Best art, theater or classical music event of the year

**Best of the best:** Boston Pops holiday concert at the Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St. in Manchester, 644-5000, [www.verizonwirelessarena.com](http://www.verizonwirelessarena.com). The Boston Pops performed at the arena in December 2010.

**Best of Concord:** *Monty Python’s Spamalot* at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S.

an artist. Her love of art and teaching was cemented in third grade when she had “the world’s best art teacher.” She has taught at the college level but much prefers high school. “It’s exciting,” Peringer said.

Best local theater performer



**Best: George F. Piehl.** Manchester’s George Piehl and his Stage One Productions (669-5511, [www.stageoneproductions.net](http://www.stageoneproductions.net)) are celebrating their 29th season of dinner theater. “I love to perform and to entertain,” Piehl said. “I’ve been fortunate enough to make a career out of it. I’ll be doing it until the day I die. It is something you don’t retire from.” Piehl said it is flattering to win this award and nice when he is stopped in the streets and told he is doing a good job. Piehl’s Stage One Productions performed *The Female Odd Couple* in March at the Chateau Function Facility, 203 Hanover St. in Manchester, which is its typical venue. They will close out the season in April with *George Piehl and Friends*. Piehl was honored last year by readers (he won this very award) and by his peers by win-

**Best of Manchester:** Art 3 Gallery, 44 West Brook St. in Manchester, 668-6650, [www.art-3gallery.com](http://www.art-3gallery.com). The show came to the Cap Center in October 2010.

**Best of Manchester:** Art in Veterans Park in downtown Manchester, a two-day festival in late August.

**Best of Nashua:** Greeley Park Art Show, a two-day art show held in August in Greeley Park in Nashua.

BEAUTY & HEALTH

Best gym

**Best of the best:** Executive Health & Sports Center, 1 Highlander Way in Manchester, 668-4753, [www.executivehealthclub.com](http://www.executivehealthclub.com).

**Best of Concord:** Get Fit NH, 287 S. Main St. in Concord, 344-2651, [getfitnhbootcamp.com](http://getfitnhbootcamp.com).

**Best of Manchester:** YMCA of Downtown Manchester, 30 Mechanic St. in Manchester, 623-3558, [www.yogm.org](http://www.yogm.org).

**Best of Nashua:** Hampshire Hills Sports & Fitness Club, 50 Emerson Road in Milford, 673-7123, [www.hampshirehills.com](http://www.hampshirehills.com).

Best independent clothing store

**Best of the best:** Alapage, 25 S. River Road in Bedford, 622-0550, [www.alapageboutique.com](http://www.alapageboutique.com).

**Best of Concord:** Gondwana Divine Clothing Co., 13 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-1101,

Hippo’s readers’ poll frequently asked questions

“Best of the best,” “Best of Concord” — what does that mean?

“Best of the best” goes to the person, place or thing that received the most votes in any given category. “Best of Manchester,” “Best of Nashua” and “Best of Concord” go to the things that, after the “Best of the best,” received the most votes in those cities.

Why is something in Derry the “Best of Manchester”?

“Manchester,” for vote-tallying purposes, includes the towns around the city —Londonderry, Derry, Windham, Auburn, Candia, Hooksett, Bedford, Goffstown and New Boston. The Concord area includes Bow, Pembroke, Suncook, Allenstown, Hopkinton, Chichester, Loudon, Contoocook, Penacook, Hillsborough and Canterbury. The Nashua area includes Litchfield, Hudson, Hollis, Brookline, Milford, Amherst and Merrimack. (Towns not mentioned here were lumped in with the nearest city.)

Why are winners in some categories listed as “Best,” “Runner up” and “Honorable mention”?

For things that are similar for all or most of the cities or accessible everywhere (radio, television) or that draw from all over the area (like food festivals and state parks), we simply awarded a first, second and third place based on number of votes.

How are the votes counted?

Winners for the Best of 2011 were picked by the readers. Readers wrote in their picks for best swimming hole and best yoga studio and then we counted the votes. There were no nominees, no drop-down menu of choices, no editors’ picks — which means that we got to see all the different ways people spell the name “Piccola Italia Ristorante.”

Target didn’t win for best independent clothing store? I’m shocked!

The readers’ poll is all about what you think is the very best about southern New Hampshire. Everybody in the country gets McDonald’s fries and Wendy’s hamburgers. National chains were not counted — this poll is about our local Bests. (Note: Businesses that are part of small regional chains were included in the answers.)

Wasn’t there a magazine listing all the winners last year?

Yes — and we’re doing it again this year. Look for the Best of 2011 magazine to hit stands in late April. If you have updated information to add to an entry here (new address, phone number, website, etc.), let us know at [adiaz@hippopress.com](mailto:adiaz@hippopress.com).

I have a great idea for a category for next year.

Excellent! While many categories stay the same, new categories are added every year. If you have an idea for a category for next year, send an e-mail to [adiaz@hippopress.com](mailto:adiaz@hippopress.com).



ning the Francis Grover Cleveland Lifetime Achievement Award at the New Hampshire Theatre Awards.



**Runner up: Patrick Lavallee.** Patrick Lavallee is loved by local fans but doesn't spend a lot of time in the Granite State. The Manchester thespian has traveled the globe performing. Lavallee began 2010 on the high seas performing on a cruise line. Later he spent several months performing at the Ogunquit Playhouse, in *Chicago* with Sally Struthers (perhaps this is how his comedian brother, Nick, got her to do a video with him) and in *Spamalot*. Lavallee was off to Atlantic City for Christmas to perform in a show until he moved to New York City, where he is currently auditioning during the week. On weekends, he travels around the country judging dance competitions. Lavallee said he always looks forward to returning to Manchester to see family and friends and do an occasional show at the Palace Theatre.



**Honorable mention: Jennifer Sue Mallard.** Currently, this Manchester actress is involved in at least three projects. Mallard is working on an independent film, performed in the New Thalian Players' first production at Southern New Hampshire University, *A New Brain*, and has "80 million auditions coming up." She also just finished *[title of show]*, which will be competing in Boston in June. "It's pretty cool," Mallard said of this award. "I was surprised." Mallard said her brother used to have a cabaret show around town. She credits her brother and father for helping her get involved with theater — they used to act and she would always be around their performances. Finally she gave it a shot and she has been hooked ever since.

www.gondwanashop.com.

**Best of Manchester:** George's Apparel, 675 Elm St. in Manchester, 622-5441, www.georgesapparel.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Fresh of Nashua, 178 Main St. in Nashua, 821-9888, www.freshof-nashua.com.

### Best independent shoe store

**Best of the best:** Alec's Shoes, 201 Main St. in Nashua, 882-6811, www.alecs-shoes.com.

**Best of Concord:** Joe King's Shoe Shop, 45 N. Main St. in Concord, 225-6012, www.joekings.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Bee Bee Shoe Store, 1525 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 621-0608, www.beebeeshoes.com.

**Best of Nashua:** The Shoe Box, 17 Route 101A in Amherst, 672-6570, www.shoe-boxnh.com.

### Best independent jewelry store

**Best of the best:** Bellman's Jewelers, 1650 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-4653, www.bellmans.com.

**Best of Concord:** Capitol Craftsman & Romance Jewelers, 16 & 18 N. Main St. in Concord, 224-6166, www.capitolcraftsman.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Elizabeth's on Elm, 889 Elm St. in Manchester, 626-0688, www.

### Best hair stylist



**Best of the best: Mark McAdams of Philip Mark Salon,** 27 Webster St., Manchester, 622-5225. McAdams, 28, enrolled in hair school at 17 as soon as he graduated from Souhegan High School in Amherst. After working for another salon for seven years, McAdams opened Philip Mark Salon in September 2009. "We were voted Best Salon that year, and that has been my journey," said McAdams, adding that he also enjoys makeup and even had a chance to do makeup for Nick Arrojo of *What Not to Wear*. That experience, plus the various interesting backgrounds of his co-workers, is what McAdams considers to "make the Philip Mark Salon stand out in our community." McAdams says his trick is to use geometry combined with a knowledge of color science and theory when cutting and styling hair. "It's the key to being a successful stylist. It helps customize somebody's personal image," he said.



**Best of Concord: Gary Benson of Creative Color and Cuts,** 259 South Main St., Concord, 228-1158. Benson always enjoyed working with his hands, and he put his skills

to use as a machinist. Fifteen years ago, he decided it was time for a career change. Enrolling in Empire Beauty School in Laconia, he started working in the mall and built up a clientele. Benson, 41, now owns Cre-

elizabethsonelm.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Scontsas Fine Jewelry & Home Decor, 169 Main St. in Nashua, 882-3281, www.scontsas.com.

### Best Laundromat

**Best of the best:** Bird Bath Laundromat, with locations at 253 Lake Ave. (622-2694), 1000 Hanover St. (623-6826) and 855 Hanover St. (627-7855) in Manchester.

**Best of Concord:** South End Village Laundromat, 71 Downing St. in Concord, 228-8768.

**Best of Manchester:** Bea's Wash N Dry, 478 S. Main St. in Manchester, 668-7110.

**Best of Nashua:** Hometown Laundry and Dry Cleaning, 76 Lowell Road in Hudson, 883-9842, www.hometownlaundry.com.

### Best barber shop

**Best of the best:** Dude's Barber Shop, 1311 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 626-0533, www.dudesbarbershop.us.

**Best of Concord:** Lucky's Barbershop & Shave Parlor, 50 S. State St. in Concord, 715-5470, www.myspace.com/luckysbarbershop.

**Best of Manchester:** Spencer Martin Barber Shop, 178 Route 101 in Bedford, 471-3606, www.spencermartinbarbers.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Chuck's Barber Shop, 168 Main St. in Nashua, 882-3711.



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ative Color and Cuts. “What I’m good at is realizing what the person really wants and not pushing them out of their comfort zone but if that’s what they need, I can do that too,” he said.



**Best of Manchester: Christine Sheldon of Salon Thairapy**, 1100 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 641-9600, [www.salonthairapy.net](http://www.salonthairapy.net). Having worked in the salon business for more than 20 years, Sheldon, 39, was ready to open her own shop. “When you work for other companies you learn what’s positive and negative. You build your own view.... There was nowhere to go but here. We call it our salon utopia,” said Sheldon of Salon Thairapy, which she opened two years ago with business partner Julie Johnson. A mother of two, she has been working on writing a novel about being a middle-aged hair stylist and “all the inspiring people that I’ve met.”



**Best of Nashua: Robert Bouchard of Hair-a-holics**, 238 Central St., Hudson, 718-8837, [www.hairaholicsnh.com](http://www.hairaholicsnh.com). Bouchard’s motto is “come in for a fix,” and that’s what he does best: fix your hair. “I think I’m someone you can come and see and I actually care about what your hair looks like when you leave. We make sure we know what you want before you leave. We’re cozy and when you come here it feels like a home,” said Bouchard, 27, who was born and raised in Manchester. After spending a few years in New York City as a makeup artist, Bouchard decided to move back home to pursue his career as a hair stylist, eventually opening Hair-a-holics just two months ago.

## Best barber



**Best of the best: Nancy Dixon of LaCoupe**, 165B Kelley St., Manchester, 669-9299. Dixon, 40, was raised in Montreal, Canada, and has owned her own barbershop for eight years. Dixon opened LaCoupe, French for “the cut,” on Manchester’s West Side in celebration of her own French Canadian origins. She previously worked retail and loved the interaction with people, but not so much the corporate side of it. When changing professions, Dixon knew she “didn’t necessarily want to have the perming and color aspect of the work, but instead liked the clippers and blades.” She knew that “barbering would really suit my personality more” because of its quick-turnaround, no-nonsense style. “Guys come in for a quick appointment; I cut and they go,” she said, adding that she averages around 25 to 35 haircuts a day. “After so many years (14), I know my customers’ families, children ... I’ve been to their weddings, graduations, etc. You build a rapport with people ... it’s not just small talk. I’ve made great friendships with people and I really enjoy what I do.” Dixon is excited to have her 21-year-old nephew Justin working with her at the barbershop.



**Best of Concord: Josh Craggy of Lucky’s Barbershop and Shave Parlor**, 50 South State St., Concord, 715-5470, [www.luckysbarbershop.biz](http://www.luckysbarbershop.biz).

Craggy recalls visiting barber shops as a kid with his dad on Saturday mornings. “It reached the point when I was 12, my dad didn’t have a lot of hair left and he gave me his old clippers from the military. He asked me for a cut and...I did,” said Craggy, 30. “Once I turned the clippers on, it was a blast.” After enrolling in barber school in Concord, Craggy, at 19, became a Master Barber. He designed his shop with a “vintage, classic look” — he loves that “once upon a time, there were no beauticians, only barbers.” Craggy opened Lucky’s three years ago. In 10 years, he hopes to “be right here in the same chairs, still cutting hair. I love it. I want to continue to keep my business top notch,” said Craggy.



**Best of Manchester: Spencer Hibbard of Spencer Martin Barber Shop**, Village Shoppes of Bedford, 178 Route 101, Bedford, 471-3606, [www.spencermartinbarbers.com](http://www.spencermartinbarbers.com).

When asked to describe an average day in his life, Hibbard’s answer is “work, work, work.” The 46-year-old Bedford resident graduated from the New England Hair Academy in Marlboro, Mass., opened his shop about a year ago and describes business as being “really good” since then. “I believe in personality. I’m friendly, upbeat, y’know. The barbershop really expresses mine and Judy’s [his wife’s] personality,” Hibbard said, adding that the shop is set up like a bar, with four flat-screen TVs and a mini bar. He prides himself on a “clean, cozy and welcoming

shop” that he says expresses his personality. “I was in the business/restaurant industry for 20 years and that personality for bar-tending really comes off in my barbering.”



**Best of Nashua: Richard MacDonald of Dick’s Barber Shop**, 263 Union Square, Milford, 321-1864. At age 69, MacDonald has been at Dick’s for 48 years now and looks back on the days when

haircuts cost 50 cents, a shave was 15 cents and a shampoo was 10 cents. Dick’s has its own history as well. “The shop has been here since 1895. I asked Peggy, the barber inspector, if my shop is the oldest in the state — I think it is,” MacDonald said. The shop has had only four owners, including MacDonald. He has seen his fair share of stories over the years, though he wouldn’t dare tell the secrets he knows. “Life, death, weddings, every day is different. Your clientele becomes like family,” he said. “Milford is a nice community. We do all the surrounding towns too ... it’s really nice people. Just a nice area to live in with caring people.”

## Friendliest dentist



**Best of the best: Dr. Lawrence J. Puccini**, 1308 Elm St. in Manchester, 627-1416.

## Best salon

**Best of the best:** Not So Plain Jane’s Salon & Spa, 155 Dow St. Suite 102 in Manchester, 622-5971, [www.otsoplainjanes.com](http://www.otsoplainjanes.com).

**Best of Concord:** Creative Color & Cuts, 259 S. Main St. in Concord, 228-1158, [www.creativecolorandcuts.com](http://www.creativecolorandcuts.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Philip Mark Salon, 27 Webster St. in Manchester, 622-5225.

**Best of Nashua:** Aidan James Salon & Spa, 44 Broad St. in Nashua, 598-0795, [www.aidanjamessalon.com](http://www.aidanjamessalon.com).

## Best spa

**Best of the best:** Chill Day Spa, 1224 Hanover St. in Manchester, 622-3722, [www.chilldayspa.net](http://www.chilldayspa.net).

**Best of Concord:** Serendipity Day Spa, 23 Sheep Davis Road in Pembroke, 229-0400, [serendipitydayspa.com](http://serendipitydayspa.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Not So Plain Jane’s Salon & Spa, 155 Dow St. Suite 102 in Manchester, 622-5971, [www.otsoplainjanes.com](http://www.otsoplainjanes.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Innovations Salon & Spa, 228 Naticook Road in Merrimack, 880-7499, [www.innovationsnh.com](http://www.innovationsnh.com).

## Best yoga studio

**Best of the best:** Bikram Yoga Manchester, 195 McGregor St. in Manchester, 669-7711, [www.manchesterbikramyoga.com](http://www.manchesterbikramyoga.com).

**Best of Concord:** Sharing Yoga, 3 Pleasant St. in Concord, 630-5576, [sharingyoga.com](http://sharingyoga.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Riverflow Yoga, 198 Londonderry Turnpike in Hooksett, 935-9822, [www.riverflowyoga.com](http://www.riverflowyoga.com).

**Best of Nashua:** NH Power Yoga, 704 Milford Road in Merrimack, 594-2494, [www.nhpoweryoga.com](http://www.nhpoweryoga.com).

## FOOD

### Best Asian food

**Best of the best:** Lilac Blossom, with locations at 385 East Dunstable Road (888-9588) and 650 Amherst St. (886-8420) in Nashua, [lilacblossom-nh.com](http://lilacblossom-nh.com).

**Best of Concord:** Siam Orchid, 158 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-1529, [www.siamorchid.net](http://www.siamorchid.net).

**Best of Manchester:** Taipei & Tokyo 3, 7 Colby Court in Bedford, 622-2588, [www.taipeitokyo3.com](http://www.taipeitokyo3.com).

**Best of Nashua:** You You Japanese Bistro, 150 Broad St. in Nashua, 882-8337, [www.youyoujibistro.com](http://youyoujibistro.com).

### Best bagels

**Best of the best:** Bagel Alley, 1 Eldridge St. in Nashua, 882-9343.

**Best of Concord:** The Works Bakery Café, 42 North Main St. in Concord, 226-1827, [www.worksbakerycafe.com](http://www.worksbakerycafe.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Bagel Café, 373 Hanover St. in Manchester, 647-2233, [nhbagelcafe.com](http://nhbagelcafe.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Hot Rize Bagel Café, 634 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-3367, [www.hotrizecafe.com](http://www.hotrizecafe.com).

### Best bakery

**Best of the best:** Frederick’s Pastries, with locations at 109 Route 101A in Amherst (882-7725) and 25 S. River Road in Bedford (647-2253), [www.pastry.net](http://www.pastry.net).

**Best of Concord:** Bread & Chocolate, 29 South Main St. in Concord, 228-3330.

**Best of Manchester:** Michelle’s Gourmet Pastries & Deli, 819 Union St. in Manchester, 647-7150, [www.michellespastries.com](http://www.michellespastries.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Crosby Bakery, 51 E. Pearl St. in Nashua, 882-1851.

### Best bar menu

**Best of the best:** Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St. in Manchester, 666-4292, [www.strangebrewtavern.net](http://www.strangebrewtavern.net).

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Billy’s Sports Bar & Grill, 34 Tarrytown Road in Manchester, 622-3644, [www.billyssportsbar.com](http://www.billyssportsbar.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Stella Blu, 70 East Pearl St. in Nashua, 578-5557, [www.stellablu-nh.com](http://www.stellablu-nh.com).

### Best beer selection (at a bar/restaurant)

**Best of the best:** Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St. in Manchester, 666-4292, [www.strangebrewtavern.net](http://www.strangebrewtavern.net).

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Milly’s Tavern, 500 N. Commercial St. in Manchester, 625-4444, [www.millystavern.com](http://www.millystavern.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Martha’s Exchange Restaurant & Brewing Co., 185 Main St. in Nashua, 883-8781, [www.marthas-exchange.com](http://www.marthas-exchange.com).

### Best place to buy beer (retail)

**Best of the best:** Bert’s Better Beers, 1100 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 413-5992, [www.bertsbetterbeers.com](http://www.bertsbetterbeers.com).

**Best of Concord:** Barb’s Beer Emporium, 249 Sheep Davis Road in Concord, 369-4501, [www.barbsbeeremporium.com](http://www.barbsbeeremporium.com).

**Best of Manchester:** North End Superette,

1308 Elm St. in Manchester, 627-1416.

**Best of Nashua:** Jasper’s Homebrew & Winemaking, 4 Temple St. in Nashua, 881-3052, [www.boomchugalug.com](http://www.boomchugalug.com).

### Best breakfast

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** City Side Grille, 25 Manchester St. in Concord, 227-0884, [citysidegrille.net](http://citysidegrille.net).

**Best of Manchester:** MaryAnn’s Diner, 29 E. Broadway in Derry, 434-5785, [www.maryannsdiner.com](http://www.maryannsdiner.com).

**Best of Nashua:** City Room Café, 105 W. Pearl St. in Nashua, 882-5016, [www.cityroom-cafe.com](http://www.cityroom-cafe.com).

### Best burgers

**Best of the best:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com).

**Best of Concord:** Cheers, 17 Depot St. in Concord, 228-0180, [www.cheersnh.com](http://www.cheersnh.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Billy’s Sports Bar & Grill, 34 Tarrytown Road in Manchester, 622-3644, [www.billyssportsbar.com](http://www.billyssportsbar.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley’s Great Steaks, 438 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-0995, [www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com](http://www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com).

### Best butcher shop

**Best of the best:** Bull Run Beef, 1100 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 669-0891. For hours, find them on Facebook.

**Best of Concord:** Concord Beef & Seafood, 75 S. Main St. in Concord, 226-3474.

**Best of Manchester:** Mr. Steer Market-



**Puccini & Roberge**, 505 Riverway Place in Bedford, 622-3445. As a child, Puccini had a good relationship with his dentist, who used to invite him to observe him in action. "I got interested that way," Puccini said. "And I kept the interest going through college." Puccini went to dental school in Ohio, married one of his classmates and together they settled in New Hampshire. He was originally from the West Coast. "I was interested in the biology, surgery, and working with my hands," Puccini said. He appreciates the social side of the job: "I'm always interested in what people are doing," Puccini said. "Everyone has a fear of the dentist. ... Our pace is slow and relaxed and I think people just take to it."



**Best of Concord: Dr. Chuck Albee, Suncook Dental**, 119 Pembroke St. in Suncook, 485-2273. Albee wasn't sure how friendly he really was, though he appreciated the honor. "I'm not grouchy," said Albee, who attended high school in Manchester. "You get to help people; that's why I did it," Albee said. The area in Suncook needed a dentist and so Albee, who is originally from Connecticut, set up shop there. Today, his son Andrew Albee also works at the practice.



**Best of Manchester: Dr. Elizabeth Spindel**, 862 Union St. in Manchester, 669-9049. Spindel said she was always interested in science and art growing up, as well as hands-on projects, like pottery and painting. "I thought [dentistry] would be a great way to combine the fields," Spindel said. Spindel, who was recognized by Hippo readers last

year as well, said it was an honor to be recognized. She and her staff try to be friendly with patients, something that works well in her field, since dentists are always trying to put their patients at ease, she said.



**Best of Nashua: Dr. Charles Pipilas**, 280 Main St. Suite 311 in Nashua, 881-8280. Pipilas said he likes dealing with patients, particularly the one-on-one interactions. "I like making patients smile, giving them confidence," Pipilas said. "It's a nice way to make a living." Growing up, Pipilas said, he enjoyed going to the dentist and "I thought it would be a cool profession to get into." Pipilas, who said he was happy to hear of his selection in the readers' poll, said he was the first member of his family to go to college, let alone professional school. "I get to know my patients' likes and dislikes," Pipilas said. "I'm very much a people-oriented person ... I just enjoy talking to them every day and I try not to make it difficult for them to come in."

#### Best fitness instructor



Best of the best: Nancy Carlson of Get

place, 27 Buttrick Road in Londonderry, 434-1444, [www.mrsteermeats.com](http://www.mrsteermeats.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Brothers Butcher, 8 Spit Brook Road in Nashua, 809-4180, and on Facebook.

#### Best candy/chocolate shop

**Best of the best:** Van Otis Chocolates, 341 Elm St. in Manchester, 627-1611, [www.vanotischocolates.com](http://www.vanotischocolates.com).

**Best of Concord:** Granite State Candy Shoppe, 13 Warren St. in Concord, 225-2591, [www.nhchocolates.com](http://www.nhchocolates.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Candy Kingdom, 235 Harvard St. in Manchester, 641-8470. For hours and more information, find them on Facebook.

**Best of Nashua:** Swan Chocolates, 436 DW Highway in Merrimack, 800-490-7926, [swanchocolates.com](http://swanchocolates.com).

#### Best cheap eats

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** Dos Amigos Burritos, 26 N. Main St. in Concord, 410-4161, [www.dosamigosburritos.com](http://www.dosamigosburritos.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Nashua:** Red Arrow Diner, 63 Union Square in Milford, 249-9222, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

#### Best cheese counter

**Best of the best:** Angela's Pasta and Cheese Shop, 815 Chestnut St. in Manchester, 625-9544, [www.angelaspastaandcheese.com](http://www.angelaspastaandcheese.com).

**Best of Concord:** Butter's Fine Food and Wine, 70 N. Main St. in Concord, 225-5995, [www.buttersfinefood.com](http://www.buttersfinefood.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Harvest Market, 29 Route 101 in Bedford, 472-7075, [www.myharvestmarket.com](http://www.myharvestmarket.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Cooking Matters, 97 Main St. in Nashua, 880-6200, [www.cookingmatters.com](http://www.cookingmatters.com).

#### Best chicken tenders

**Best of the best:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Concord:** Cheers, 17 Depot St. in Concord, 228-0180, [www.cheersnh.com](http://www.cheersnh.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Goldenrod Drive-In, 1681 Candia Road in Manchester, 623-9469, [www.goldenrodrestaurant.com](http://www.goldenrodrestaurant.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Chicken N Chips, 12 W. Hollis St in Nashua, 943-5840, [chicken-n-chips.us](http://chicken-n-chips.us).

#### Best cocktail

**Best of the best:** Mudslide (the current menu has 10 different varieties of mudslide) at The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Concord:** Margaritas (the menu has about 15 different takes on the margarita) at Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave. in Concord, 224-5669, [www.hermanos-mexican.com](http://www.hermanos-mexican.com).

**Best of Manchester:** The Moroccan Old Fashioned at Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Nashua:** The Harry Potter at Old

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**Fit NH Bootcamp**, 287 S. Main St. in Concord and 167 New Orchard Road in Epsom, 344-2651, [www.getfitnhbootcamp.com](http://www.getfitnhbootcamp.com). An Indiana native, Carlson owned a day-care facility for 15 years before taking a few years off and then opening Get Fit NH Bootcamp with her husband. The bootcamp is all about group personal training in a four-week process that encourages full-body workouts. Clients are not just mimicking an instructor's moves but are physically helped along by an instructor who's there with you, Carlson said. "Typical clients lose a significant amount of weight... the change is not just physical but personality as well," Carlson said. Carlson says it's important for her to live what she preaches in her classes, and that at age 46 she feels better than she did when she was 30 — not to mention she's had six kids. "I don't want to be a grandma that sits on the sidelines. I want to move when I'm 65...80...."



**Best of Concord: Eric Marsh, Fun Intelligent Training**, 30 Henniker St. #7 in Concord, 496-1402, [www.funintelligent-training.com](http://www.funintelligent-training.com). Marsh integrates his background in psychology and mental health into his fitness training, hence the name "intelligent" training. Marsh committed himself to staying in shape at the age of 14. Now at 30, he runs FIT full-time, where the focus is on group training, including boot camps and combat training. He boasts of clients who have lost a significant amount of weight in his training programs, including two on the brink of 100-pound weight loss. "I love to help people. My goal in life is to touch as many lives as I can — teaching and coaching has been one of the consistent things [in my life]."



**Best of Manchester: Susanne Larkham of Jazzercise**, 259 Hanover St. # 2 in Manchester, 624-9122, [www.manchjazz.com](http://www.manchjazz.com). A resident of Manchester since 1997, Larkham found jazzercise through a local theater community project. "One of the people saw how I loved to dance. ... I was losing weight through Weight Watchers and they suggested I try jazzercise [to help get in shape]," Larkham said. Larkham bought Manchester Jazzercise Fitness Center in 2007 and now teaches five to eight classes a week. She says people think her job would be tiring, but in fact it gives her energy. "The body is like a well-oiled machine. The more you use it, the more efficient it becomes. I wouldn't go back to my 20s for love or money. I'm 40, baby!"



**Best of Nashua: Scott Prunier of Top Fitness**, 8 Riverside St. in Nashua, 661-8037, [www.gotopfitness.com](http://www.gotopfitness.com). Prunier fills his 5 a.m.-to-8 p.m. days with fitness. He not only teaches at Top Fitness but is fully employed by the Merrimack YMCA. During the summer he works on conditioning with young athletes. At 35, his favorite part of his job is the "diversity in clientele," which includes ages 9 through adult. "We want [everyone] to feel like it's not a regular gym. ... We want people to know what they are doing so they are in tune with strength, nutrition, movement, etc." Top Fitness recently paired with Nashua Parks and Recreation to offer an outdoor summer camp.

Amsterdam Bar and Lounge, 8 Temple St. in Nashua, 204-5534, [www.oldamsterdambarrandlounge.com](http://www.oldamsterdambarrandlounge.com).

#### Best cup of coffee

**Best of the best:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Concord:** True Brew Barista, 3 Bicentennial Square in Concord, 225-2776, [www.truebrewbarista.com](http://www.truebrewbarista.com).

**Best of Manchester:** J Dubs Coffee, 1000 Elm St. in Manchester, 622-7944, [www.jdubscoffee.com](http://www.jdubscoffee.com).

**Best of Nashua:** A&E Custom Coffee Roastery, 135 Route 101A in Amherst, 578-3338, [www.aeroastery.com](http://www.aeroastery.com).

#### Best desserts

**Best of the best:** Frederick's Pastries, with locations at 109 Route 101A in Amherst (882-7725) and 25 S. River Road in Bedford (647-2253), [www.pastry.net](http://www.pastry.net).

**Best of Concord:** Bread & Chocolate, 29 S. Main St. in Concord, 228-3330.

**Best of Manchester:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Nashua:** The Black Forest Café, 212 Route 101 in Amherst, 672-0500, [www.theblackforestcafe.com](http://www.theblackforestcafe.com).

#### Best diner

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** Tilt'n Diner, 61 Laco-nia Road in Tilton, 286-2204, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/tilton-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/tilton-diner).

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280

Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Nashua:** Red Arrow Diner, 93 Union Square in Milford, 249-9222, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

#### Best ethnic food market

**Best of the best:** Saigon Asian Market, 93 S. Maple St. in Manchester, 644-3555.

**Best of Concord:** Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St. in Concord, 225-6840, [www.concordfoodcoop.coop](http://www.concordfoodcoop.coop).

**Best of Manchester:** Spice Center, 245 Maple St. in Manchester, 626-7290.

**Best of Nashua:** Lanna Asian Market, 495 Amherst St. in Nashua, 578-0438, [lannaasianmarket.com](http://lannaasianmarket.com).

#### Best farmers market

**Best:** Downtown Manchester Farmers Market, which runs Thursdays, late June through mid October, on Concord Street between Chestnut and Pine streets, from 3 to about 6 p.m. See [intownmanchester.com](http://intownmanchester.com) for updates.

**Runner up:** Concord Farmers Market, which runs Saturdays, early June through early October, on Capitol Street next to the state capitol building, from about 9 a.m. to noon.

**Honorable mention:** Bedford Farmers Market, which is held on Tuesdays, late June through October, from 3 to 6 p.m. in Benedictine Park in Bedford. See [bedfordfarmersmarket.org](http://bedfordfarmersmarket.org) for updates.

#### Best food festival/event

**Best of the best:** Glendi, the annual Greek food and culture festival held in mid-September at St. George Greek Orthodox



## Best yoga instructor



**Best of the best: Elizabeth Vlangas of Riverflow Yoga**, 198 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 935-9822, [www.riverflowyoga.com](http://www.riverflowyoga.com). Vlangas, originally from Dorchester, Mass., started teaching yoga at Riverflow three years ago. Prior to that, Vlangas had done personal training and noticed her clients wanted to know more about yoga. “I started taking weekend workshops for yoga... It was a whole-body way to work out,” she said. Vlangas says her tagline for Riverflow is “yoga for real people,” because they are “laid back.” “We don’t chant, you don’t have to learn Sanskrit. You come here, get into your breath, your body, meet new people and really get the fitness aspect of yoga. You don’t have to be a gymnast to be here.” Vlangas says she is living and working her dream job. “I’m blessed every day,” she said. “I couldn’t have done it without my husband; he’s my partner financially and emotionally. I’m lucky.”



**Best of Concord: David Breen of Sharing Yoga**, 3 Pleasant St., 2nd floor, Concord, 630-5576, [www.sharingyoga.com](http://www.sharingyoga.com). Breen came to New Hampshire from

Lawrence, Mass., as a child and was drawn to the outdoorsy lifestyle. Before teaching yoga, he was in retail management at S&W Sports in Concord. “It was a high-stress job and I was already practicing yoga for stress reduction,” said Breen, 52. “I decided to make the transition [to teaching yoga], and I’m a lot happier.” Breen used to play bass in a punk band called Rat Sync.



**Best of Manchester: Pubali Campbell of Bikram Yoga**, 195 McGregor St., Mill West Annex, Manchester, 669-7711, [www.manchesterbikramyoga.com](http://www.manchesterbikramyoga.com). Campbell, 32, used to work “in the real world” as a research consultant in Providence, R.I. “I was at a crossroads and I wasn’t happy. That’s when I was approached by uncle to join the family business of bikram yoga. It was my golden opportunity... just like Eminem says in *Eight Mile*.” In her bikram classes, Campbell focuses on physical and mental empowerment. “We teach people here to find, condition and hone their strengths. I always say we train them how to be stronger.”



**Best of Nashua: Melissa Dabilis of Open Space Yoga**, 19 Factory St., Nashua, 557-8172, [www.osyoga.com](http://www.osyoga.com). When Dabilis isn’t teaching kripalu and kundalini yoga, she is working for a business consulting firm or practicing as a doula. Raised in Merrimack, Dabilis, 58, said, “I’ve taught in many places — doctors’ offices, night schools — I always wanted my own place that was peaceful and calm.” Dabilis loves teaching kripalu and kundalini yoga because she believes they

Cathedral, 650 Hanover St. in Manchester, [www.stgeorge.nh.goarch.org](http://www.stgeorge.nh.goarch.org).

**Runner up:** Rock ‘N Ribfest, the week-end-long barbecue festival and competition held at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery in Merrimack. See [ribfestnh.org](http://ribfestnh.org) for details. This year’s festival is scheduled for June 17 through June 19.

**Honorable mention:** World’s Championship Chili Cookoff, held in downtown Manchester. The event came to the Queen City for the first time in 2010 and will return Sept. 30 through Oct. 2 of this year. See [www.chilicookoff.com](http://www.chilicookoff.com).

## Best french fries

**Best of the best:** Caesario’s Pizza and Subs, 1057 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-8383, [www.caesariospizza.com](http://www.caesariospizza.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.the-barleyhouse.com](http://www.the-barleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Peddler’s Daughter, 48 Main St. in Nashua, 821-7535, [www.thepeddlersdaughter.com](http://www.thepeddlersdaughter.com).

## Best grilled cheese

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** Tandy’s Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614, [www.top-shelf.biz](http://www.top-shelf.biz).

**Best of Manchester:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Jackie’s Diner, 168 Main St. in Nashua, 889-4957.

## Best hot chocolate

**Best of the best:** Swan Chocolates, 436 DW Highway in Merrimack, 800-490-7926, [swanchocolates.com](http://swanchocolates.com).

**Best of Concord:** True Brew Barista, 3 Bicentennial Square in Concord, 225-2776, [www.truebrewbarista.com](http://www.truebrewbarista.com).

**Best of Manchester:** J Dubs Coffee, 1000 Elm St. in Manchester, 622-7944, [www.jdub-scoffee.com](http://www.jdub-scoffee.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Riverwalk Roasters Coffee House, 35 Railroad Square in Nashua, 578-0200, [www.riverwalkroasters.com](http://www.riverwalkroasters.com).

## Best ice cream

**Best of the best:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Concord:** Arnie’s Place, 164 Loudon Road in Concord, 228-3225, [www.arniesplace.com](http://www.arniesplace.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Goldenrod Drive-In, 1681 Candia Road in Manchester, 623-9469, [www.goldenrodrestaurant.com](http://www.goldenrodrestaurant.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Hayward’s Ice Cream Stand with locations at 7 DW Highway in Nashua (888-4663) and 383 Elm St. in Milford (672-8383), [www.haywardsicecream.com](http://www.haywardsicecream.com).

## Best Italian restaurant

**Best of the best:** Piccola Italia Ristorante, 815 Elm St. in Manchester, 606-5100, [www.piccolaitalianh.com](http://www.piccolaitalianh.com).

**Best of Concord:** Angelina’s Ristorante Italiano, 11 Depot St. in Concord, 228-3313,

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are “two ends of the same stick, complementing each other in every way.” She most enjoys being able to help students “release tension, relax from their multi-tasking life and ... take care of themselves.” ”

Best chef



**Best of the best: Michael Buckley of MT’s Local Kitchen & Wine Bar**, 212 Main St., Nashua, 595-9334, [www.mtslocal.com](http://www.mtslocal.com), Surf, 207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293, [www.surfseafood.com](http://www.surfseafood.com), and Buckley’s Great Steaks, 438 DW Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, [www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com](http://www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com). Michael Buckley began is culinary journey in 1976 while working as a dishwasher at the Brookline Station Restaurant. “I have just kind of been following my passion, my instincts and the opportunity that I have either created for myself or had come my way,” he said. Buckley credits most of his success to the people he surrounds himself with. “I can take credit for building great teams and they can take credit for doing an excellent job,” he said. Buckley is glad his latest dining venture has been well-received. “It’s very refreshing,” Buckley said of the support for MT’s Local. “You might think you have a great idea and you believe in it and you like it,

but until you see the customers’ reaction you just don’t know.”



**Best of Concord: Mat Mitnitsky of Nonni’s Italian Eatery**, 172 N. Main St., Concord, 224-0400, [www.nonnisitalianeatery.com](http://www.nonnisitalianeatery.com). Mitnitsky takes pride in serving traditional Italian dishes “just like mama used to make” at Nonni’s Italian Eatery. “My recipes are from a lot of people’s grandmothers,” he said. Born and raised near New York City, Mitnitsky wanted to bring the food of “Little Italy” to the Granite State. He educates customers about sustainable and organic food at Monday night cooking classes. “There is a niche out there for people that want to know about food, where it comes from,” he said.



**Best of Manchester: Chef Nicole Barreira of T-Bones/Cactus Jack’s** with Cactus Jack’s in Manchester and Laconia, and T-Bones in Bedford, Derry, Hudson, Laconia and Salem, [www.go2cjs.com](http://www.go2cjs.com). Barreira grew up in a “very Italian and Portuguese” family in Nashua in which “I couldn’t help but notice all of those great times in my life revolved around food ... I wanted to carry that into the restaurant,” Barreira said. Barreira, 27, joined T-Bones/Cactus Jack’s in 2006 after graduating from Southern New Hampshire University. She loves experimenting with ingredients and cooking methods. “I like learning as I go,” she said. Barreira noted one of her favorite parts of being a chef and a mother (she has a one-year-old daughter and another child on the way) is that she has her own “in-home little experimenter.” “I like to see how many things I can

get her to eat before she knows what they are,” Barreira said of her daughter.



**Best of Nashua: Joe Drift of Saffron Bistro**, 80 Main St., Nashua, 883-2100, [www.the-saffronbistro.com](http://www.the-saffronbistro.com). When creating a dish at Saffron Bistro, Drift, the restaurant’s chef and owner, tries to keep it simple. “The main focus on the dish is great flavor, great presentation, without having too many things going on,” he said. Drift opened Saffron Bistro in 2007. “Nashua is a great city,” he said. “It’s up and coming and I’m just glad to be part of the dining scene downtown.” Drift said his favorite part is seeing the customers’ reaction to the dishes he offers. “I’m pretty friendly with about 90 percent of our clientele and the other 10 percent I just haven’t met yet,” he said.

Best bartender



**Best of the best: Billy Laforge of Wild Rover**, 21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7722,

[www.wildroverpub.com](http://www.wildroverpub.com). Luckily for The Wild Rover, when the Grateful Dead stopped touring, Laforge had time to join their staff. “I had nothing else to do,” Laforge said, adding that he cut his shoulder-length hair when Jerry Garcia died. Laforge, 40, said he was not sure what stands out about him enough to be voted “Best of the Best.” “I have no idea, really I don’t ... all the guys at Strange Brew are better than me, other bartenders here are better than me,” he said. “I just sling beers and whiskey, I’m not Johnny Cocktail, I’m old-school,” he said, showing calloused hands, which he uses in lieu of a bottle opener.



**Best of Concord: Corey Garland of The Barley House**, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com). Eight years ago, Garland worked his first shift at The Barley House, on St. Patrick’s Day. Having completed one week of training, he made it through his “very hectic” first day, said Garland, now 33. “And now I won’t leave,” he said. Garland, of Concord, started bartending while attending college to become an art teacher, and when he saw how much money he could make behind the bar, he dropped out. He continues with his passion for art at his photography studio in downtown Concord. He enjoys talking with lobbyists about hot topics in New Hampshire government, as The Barley House is so near the Statehouse.



**Best of Manchester: Jason Cool of Portland Pie Company**, 786 Elm St., Manchester, 622-7437, [www.portlandpie.com](http://www.portlandpie.com). “I love my job. It’s one of those things where every day is pretty awesome,” said

[www.angelinasrestaurant.com](http://www.angelinasrestaurant.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Fratello’s Italian Grille, 155 Dow St. in Manchester, 624-2022, [www.fratellos.com](http://www.fratellos.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Villa Banca, 194 Main St. in Nashua, 598-0500, [www.villabanca.com](http://www.villabanca.com).

Best late-night eats

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** Cheers, 17 Depot St. in Concord, 228-0180, [www.cheersnh.com](http://www.cheersnh.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Nashua:** Red Arrow Diner, 63 Union Square in Milford, 249-9222, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

Best menu item

**Best of the best:** Chicken Tenders (served with the famous sweet duck sauce) at The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Concord:** Dublin Burger (peppercorn charred with whiskey gravy, creamy blue cheese and crispy onions, according to the menu) at The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** “Go Go” Bread (warm garlic bread with gorgonzola fondue, according to the menu) at Firefly American Bistro & Bar, 22 Concord St. in Manchester, 935-9740, [www.fireflynh.com](http://www.fireflynh.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Butternut Squash Ravioli (fresh pasta squares filled with roasted butter-

nut squash, tossed in sage brown butter and topped with parmesan cheese, according to the menu) at Villa Banca, 194 Main St. in Nashua, 598-0500, [www.villabanca.com](http://www.villabanca.com).

Best Mexican/Latin-American restaurant

**Best of the best:** La Carreta, 545 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 628-6899.

**Best of Concord:** Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave. in Concord, 224-5669, [www.hermanosmexican.com](http://www.hermanosmexican.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Shorty’s Mexican Roadhouse, 1050 Bicentennial Drive in Manchester, 625-1730, [shortysmex.com](http://shortysmex.com).

**Best of Nashua:** La Carreta, 139 DW Highway in Nashua, 891-0055.

Best muffins

**Best of the best:** The Bridge Café, 1117 Elm St. in Manchester, 647-9991, [www.thebridgedcafe.net](http://www.thebridgedcafe.net).

**Best of Concord:** Bread & Chocolate, 29 South Main St. in Concord, 228-3330.

**Best of Manchester:** Jewell & the Beanstalk, 793 Somerville St. in Manchester, 624-3709, [jbeanstalk.com](http://jbeanstalk.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Cooking Matters, 97 Main St. in Nashua, 880-6200, [www.cookingmatters.com](http://www.cookingmatters.com).

Best neighborhood market

**Best of the best:** Bunny’s Superette, 75 Webster St. in Manchester, 622-5080.

**Best of Concord:** Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St. in Concord, 225-6840, [www.concordfoodcoop.coop](http://www.concordfoodcoop.coop).

**Best of Manchester:** Sully’s Superette, 10 N Mast Road in Goffstown, 497-8176, [www.sullyssuperette.com](http://www.sullyssuperette.com).

[www.sullyssuperette.com](http://www.sullyssuperette.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Jeannotte’s Market, 2 Courtland St. in Nashua, 882-0161.

Best outdoor food vendor (include name of vendor and usual location)

**Best of the best:** Sausage King, which has a restaurant at 53 Main St. in Nashua, 204-5110, and outside of Martha’s Exchange in Nashua on some evenings during warm weather. See [www.thesausagekingofnashua.com](http://www.thesausagekingofnashua.com).

**Best of Concord:** Puppy Love, which has an indoor spot at 50 N. Main St. in Concord during the cold months and an outdoor spot from April to October in the alley next to Butter’s on Main Street. See [www.puppylove-hotdogs.com](http://www.puppylove-hotdogs.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Jonathan’s Quick Eats, the sausage cart in front of Black Brimmer on Elm Street in Manchester on some nights.

**Best of Nashua:** Jean’s Express Dogs, a cart in Greeley Park in Nashua.

Best pizza in your neighborhood

**Best of the best:** Alley Cat Pizzeria, 486 Chestnut St. in Manchester, 669-4533, [www.alleycatpizzeriaanh.com](http://www.alleycatpizzeriaanh.com).

**Best of Concord:** Vinnie’s Pizzeria, 200 South Main St. in Concord, 224-7727.

**Best of Manchester:** Portland Pie Company, 786 Elm St. in Manchester, 622-7437, [www.portlandpie.com](http://www.portlandpie.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Espresso NY Style Pizza, 85 Main St. in Nashua, 889-9826, [www.espressopizzaonline.com](http://www.espressopizzaonline.com).

Best pizza worth the drive

**Best of the best:** 900 Degrees Pizzeria, 50 Dow St. in Manchester, 641-0900, [www.900degrees.com](http://www.900degrees.com).

**Best of Concord:** Vinnie’s Pizzeria, 200 South Main St. in Concord, 224-7727.

**Best of Manchester:** Alley Cat Pizzeria, 486 Chestnut St. in Manchester, 669-4533, [www.alleycatpizzeriaanh.com](http://www.alleycatpizzeriaanh.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Bob’s Pizza, 115 E. Hollis St. in Nashua, 821-4093, [www.bobspizzanh.com](http://www.bobspizzanh.com).

Best poutine

**Best of the best:** Chez Vachon, 136 Kelley St. in Manchester, 625-9660, [www.chezvachon.com](http://www.chezvachon.com).

**Best of Concord:** Tilt’n Diner, 61 Laconia Road in Tilton, 286-2204, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/tilton-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/tilton-diner).

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Nashua:** Estabrook Grill, 57 Palm St. in Nashua, 943-5035, [www.estabrookgrill.com](http://www.estabrookgrill.com).

Best kid-friendly restaurant

**Best of the best:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Concord:** Cheers, 17 Depot St. in Concord, 228-0180, [www.cheersnh.com](http://www.cheersnh.com).

**Best of Manchester:** T-Bones Great American Eatery, 25 S. River Road in Bedford, 641-6100, [www.t-bones.com](http://www.t-bones.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Shorty’s Mexican Roadhouse, 48 Gusabel Ave. in Nashua, 882-4070, [shortysmex.com](http://shortysmex.com).

Cool, 29, who has manned the bar at the Pie Company since June and has been bartending for seven years. "I get to laugh pretty much the entire shift, just make jokes all night long," he said. "The majority of my customers are funny, too." Cool, of Manchester, likened the Pie Company staff to "a little family." "I work with a great group of people, everyone is friendly," he said. His secret to getting through a busy night at the bar, Cool said, is just to keep moving and get to as many customers as possible. "If you see someone with 'thirsty eyes,' get them a drink," he said.



**Best of Nashua: Jared Bracci of Old Amsterdam Bar and Lounge**, 8 Temple St., Nashua, 204-5534, [www.oldamsterdambarrandlounge.com](http://www.oldamsterdambarrandlounge.com). "I like the

improvisation [of bartending]," said Bracci, of Hollis, who has been bartending for 14 years. "I like not knowing what is going to happen. That is why I kind of always like working Wednesdays as opposed to Fridays and Saturday — those are fun but you know what you are going to get." When helping a customer decided on a cocktail Bracci asks three questions: what is their favorite flavor, what is their favorite spice and what is their zodiac sign? "Let's face it, birthdays are important to people, you look forward to that," Bracci said. "Someone whose birthday is in the summer might like a summer drink. I just use it as a reference guide."

## Best waiter/waitress



**Best of the best: Carrie McNiss at Strange Brew Tavern**, 88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, [www.strangebrewtavern.net](http://www.strangebrewtavern.net). McNiss has spent six years waitressing at the Strange Brew Tavern.



**Best of Concord: Mechelle Zydenbos at The Barley House**, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com). Zydenbos said waitressing suits her personality. "I do enjoy people, I really do, and I'm really good at reading people," she said. Zydenbos, 42, also noted she is good at reading people's needs and "assessing them before they know what they are." Zydenbos loves working during legislative sessions as the restaurant sits across the street from the Statehouse and is a regular haunt of politicians. "I stay a lot more in touch with New Hampshire politics than I normally would be, despite listening to NHPR all the time," she said. Zydenbos, of Concord, is an accomplished singer-songwriter who has performed at CBGB in New York.

## Best ribs

**Best of the best: KC's Rib Shack**, 837 Second St. in Manchester, 627-7427, [ribshack.net](http://ribshack.net).

**Best of Concord: Arnie's Place**, 164 Loudon Road in Concord, 228-3225, [www.arniesplace.com](http://www.arniesplace.com).

**Best of Manchester: Cactus Jack's**, 782 S. Willow St. in Manchester, 627-8600, [www.go2cjs.com](http://www.go2cjs.com).

**Best of Nashua: Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse**, 48 Gusabel Ave. in Nashua, 882-4070, [shortysmex.com](http://shortysmex.com).

## Best salads

**Best of the best: The Puritan Backroom**, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Concord: Common Man**, 25 Water St. in Concord, 228-3463, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/common-man-concord](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/common-man-concord).

**Best of Manchester: Republic**, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Nashua: Seedling Café**, 9 Water St. in Nashua, 594-4002, [www.theseedling-cafe.com](http://www.theseedling-cafe.com).

## Best sandwich (name of sandwich and restaurant)

**Best of the best: Steak Tips & Cheese at Nadeau's Subs**, with locations at 100 Cahill Ave. (669-7827), 776 Mast Road (623-9315), 1095 Hanover St. (606-4411) and 805 Canal St. (644-8888) in Manchester and 81 S. Main St. (856-7563) in Concord, [nadeaus.biz](http://nadeaus.biz).

**Best of Concord: Roast Beef Sandwiches at Beefside**, 106 Manchester St. in Concord, 228-0208, [www.beefsiderestaurant.com](http://www.beefsiderestaurant.com).

**Best of Manchester: Nacho Crusted Chicken at Wild Rover Pub**, 21 Kosciuszko St. in Manchester, 669-7722, [www.wildroverpub.com](http://www.wildroverpub.com).

**Best of Nashua: Big Poppy at Nashua Garden**, 121 Main St. in Nashua, 886-7363.

## Best seafood restaurant

**Best of the best: Surf**, 207 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9293, [www.surfseafood.com](http://www.surfseafood.com).

**Best of Concord: Newick's**, 317 Loudon Road in Concord, 225-2424, [www.newicks.com](http://www.newicks.com).

**Best of Manchester: Tinker's Seafood**, 545 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 622-4272, [www.tinkersseafood.com](http://www.tinkersseafood.com).

**Best of Nashua: Lobster Boat**, 453 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-5221, [www.lobsterboatrestaurant.com](http://www.lobsterboatrestaurant.com).

## Best menu of small plates

**Best of the best: Stella Blu**, 70 East Pearl St. in Nashua, 578-5557, [www.stellablu-nh.com](http://www.stellablu-nh.com).

**Best of Concord: The Granite Restaurant at The Centennial**, 96 Pleasant St. in Concord, 227-9000, [www.graniterestaurant.com](http://www.graniterestaurant.com).

**Best of Manchester: Republic**, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Nashua: MT's Local Kitchen and Wine Bar**, 212 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9334, [www.mtslocal.com](http://www.mtslocal.com).

## Best soups

**Best of the best: Collins Brothers Chowder**, 59 Temple St. in Nashua, 883-2347, [www.collinsbrotherschowder.com](http://www.collinsbrotherschowder.com).

**Best of Concord: In A Pinch Café & Bakery**, with locations at 146 Pleasant St.

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**Best of Manchester:** Melissa Carr at Portland Pie Company, 786 Elm St., Manchester, 622-7437, www.portlandpie.com. Carr, of Goffstown, thrives on busy nights at the Pie Company: "It's what I live for," she said. Carr said she is able to turn an unhappy table around in 30 seconds "just by being friendly and having a big smile." "I might never remember someone's name but I will always remember what they eat or drink," she added. Carr, 34, noted the people she works with as one thing she likes about her job. "We all have the same lifestyle, the same hours, we usually bond after work."



**Best of Nashua:** Bastian DiCaprio at San Francisco Kitchen, 133 Main St., Nashua, 886-8833, www.sfkitchen.com. DiCaprio says he has formed such a bond with his customers that they invite him to the hospital to meet their newborn babies. "That's why I never wanted to work in a big restaurant," DiCaprio said. "I like a small, cozy family-style restaurant." DiCaprio, of Manchester, noted that he has learned to read his customers: "I get that feel of what they want and give them what they want, whether it is formal, fun or casual," he said. When he is not working, DiCaprio is traveling around the world. "Every year I try to go somewhere to get away and relax so I can come back relaxed," he said.

## Best local television personality



**Best of the best:** Fritz Wetherbee, WMUR. "It tickles me pink," Wetherbee said of this award. Wetherbee reaches viewers weeknights on *New Hampshire Chronicle*. Wetherbee says his passion for story-telling is real. "It's criminal that they pay me to do this job," Wetherbee said. Wetherbee has started doing about one fiction piece per week, about the character "Binky Sears." He's also written seven books and he's expecting to write another, which he said would make 1,000 stories he's written. Wetherbee also ran a radio station in Peterborough for 10 years.



**Runner up:** Josh Judge, WMUR meteorologist. "...I'm obviously thrilled, especially since it's been such an active winter," Judge said of this recognition. Judge said every winter has its own character and it can take a little while to figure it out. With snowstorms, "This winter took a while but eventually we figured that no matter what the computer was telling us, we could probably throw a few more

(226-2272) and 2 Pillsbury St. (369-3598) in Concord, www.inapinchcafe.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Suddenly Soupy's, 28 Hanover St. in Manchester, 657-7279, www.suddenlysoupys.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Cooking Matters, 97 Main St. in Nashua, 880-6200, www.cookingmatters.com.

## Best steakhouse

**Best of the best:** Hanover Street Chophouse, 149 Hanover St. in Manchester, 644-2467, www.hanoverstreetchophouse.com.

**Best of Concord:** O Steaks and Seafood, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 856-7925, magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks.

**Best of Manchester:** Gauchos Churrascaria Brazilian Steak House, 62 Lowell St. in Manchester, 669-9460, www.gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-0995, www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com.

## Best subs

**Best of the best:** Nadeau's Subs, with locations at 100 Cahill Ave. (669-7827) 776 Mast Road (623-9315), 1095 Hanover St. (606-4411) and 805 Canal St. (644-8888) in Manchester and 81 S. Main St. (856-7563) in Concord, nadeaus.biz.

**Best of Concord:** Yellow Sub, 192 N. State St. in Concord, 228-4500, www.theyellowsb.com.

**Best of Manchester:** USA Subs, with locations in Derry (66 Crystal Ave.; 437-1550), Salem (354 N. Broadway; 912-5481) and Hooksett (1292 Hooksett Road; 625-1800), www.usasubs.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Bill Cahill's Super Subs,

8 Kimball Hill Road in Hudson, 882-7710.

## Best vegetarian menu

**Best of the best:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com.

**Best of Concord:** Café Indigo, 128 Hall St. in Concord, 224-1770, www.cafeindigo.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Café Momo, 1064 Hanover St. in Manchester, 623-3733, www.cafemomoh.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Meena's Kitchen, 113 W. Pearl St. in Nashua, 204-5025, www.meenaskitchen.com.

## Best vegetarian dish

**Best of the best:** Moroccan Red Lentil Stew (with bulgur wheat and spicy stuffed eggplant, with cucumber and tzatziki sauce) at Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com.

**Best of Concord:** The Rachel (a "Reuben"-esque sandwich, homemade seitan on grilled rye with sauce and coleslaw, according to the menu) at Café Indigo, 128 Hall St. in Concord, 224-1770, www.cafeindigo.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Eggplant Napoleon (breaded eggplant, roasted tomatoes, spinach and asiago, with balsamic glaze, parmesan crisp, according to the menu) at Firefly American Bistro & Bar, 22 Concord St. in Manchester, 935-9740, www.fireflynh.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Six Course Meal (featuring a changing line-up including soup, chapatti and a dessert as well as other vegetarian Indian dishes) at Meena's Kitchen, 113 W. Pearl St. in Nashua, 204-5025, www.meenaskitchen.com.

## Best restaurant wine list

**Best of the best:** UnWine'd, 865 Second St.



inches on,” Judge said. Judge, who wrote *Extreme New England Weather* and *Weather Facts and Fun*, gets to the WMUR studio about 1:30 a.m. and monitors the weather until he gets on the air. Judge began his career in radio but went back to school to study weather.



**Honorable mention: Kevin Skarupa, WMUR meteorologist.** Skarupa enjoys monitoring the weather, but what he enjoys the most is school visits. In February he did 20 school visits in 20 days. “That’s truly the most fun part about the job,” Skarupa said, and it’s also good practice for television, since he’s ad-libbing with the students. Skarupa said his real personality shows on the air. “I’m equally as geeky in real life,” he said. “I’m an equal-opportunity geek.”

### Best local athlete



**Best:** Chris Carpenter of the St. Louis Cardinals.

**dinals.** When healthy, Carpenter is among the very best pitchers in baseball. The 35-year-old, who took home the Cy Young award in 2005 as the best pitcher in the National League, has been with the St. Louis Cardinals since 2004 and previously played six seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays. Carpenter finished last season at 16-9 with a 3.22 earned run average. The previous year he was 17-4 with a 2.24 ERA. For his career, Carpenter, who stands 6’6” and starred at Trinity High School, holds a record of 133-83 with a 3.80 ERA. Carpenter was hurt earlier this spring but appears to be bouncing back.



**Runner up: Matt Bonner of the San Antonio Spurs.** While the Celtics’ Ray Allen has gotten most of the attention this year as he broke the all-time record for three-pointers made, it has been Bonner of the San Antonio Spurs who has led the NBA in three-point percentage so far this season. He is currently hitting threes at a 48-percent clip. The 30-year-old product of Concord High School is averaging 7.4 points and 3.4 rebounds per game. Now in his sixth year in the NBA, Bonner is playing about 21.5 minutes per game. Bonner starred at the University of Florida and then spent two seasons with the Toronto Raptors before joining the Spurs in 2006. The Spurs currently have the best record in the NBA.



**Honorable mention: Bode Miller of the USA Ski Team.** Miller, a 32-year-old Franconia native, drew accolades last year when he won a gold medal at the Olympics in Vancouver. Miller was an up-and-coming skier

in Manchester, 625-9463, [www.unwined.net](http://www.unwined.net).

**Best of Concord:** O Steaks and Seafood, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 856-7925, [magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks](http://magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks).

**Best of Manchester:** Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way in Bedford, 472-2001, [www.bedfordvillageinn.com](http://www.bedfordvillageinn.com). (Some voters specifically mentioned Corks, the inn’s wine bar.)

**Best of Nashua:** MT’s Local Kitchen and Wine Bar, 212 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9334, [www.mtslocal.com](http://www.mtslocal.com).

### Best wine shop

**Best of the best:** WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St. in Nashua, 204-5569, [www.winenotboutique.com](http://www.winenotboutique.com).

**Best of Concord:** Butter’s Fine Food and Wine, 70 N. Main St. in Concord, 225-5995, [www.buttersfinefood.com](http://www.buttersfinefood.com)

**Best of Manchester:** The Wine Studio, 53 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 622-9463, [www.thewinestudionh.com](http://www.thewinestudionh.com).

**Best of Nashua:** NH Wine and Liquor Outlet, 27 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua, 882-4670.

### Best new eatery

**Best of the best:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Concord:** O Steaks and Seafood, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 856-7925, [magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks](http://magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks).

**Best of Manchester:** Portland Pie Company, 786 Elm St. in Manchester, 622-7437, [www.portlandpie.com](http://www.portlandpie.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Homestead Restaurant, 641 DW Highway in Merrimack, 429-2022, [www.homesteadnh.com](http://www.homesteadnh.com).

### Best fine dining restaurant

**Best of the best:** Hanover Street Chophouse,

149 Hanover St. in Manchester, 644-2467, [www.hanoverstreetchophouse.com](http://www.hanoverstreetchophouse.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Granite Restaurant at The Centennial, 96 Pleasant St. in Concord, 227-9000, [www.graniterestaurant.com](http://www.graniterestaurant.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way in Bedford, 472-2001, [www.bedfordvillageinn.com](http://www.bedfordvillageinn.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley’s Great Steaks, 438 DW Highway in Merrimack, 424-0995, [www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com](http://www.buckleysgreatsteaks.com).

### Best restaurant overall

**Best of the best:** Republic, 1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 666-3723, [republiccafe.com](http://republiccafe.com).

**Best of Concord:** Common Man, 25 Water St. in Concord, 228-3463, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/common-man-concord](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/common-man-concord).

**Best of Manchester:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 669-6890, [www.puritanbackroom.com](http://www.puritanbackroom.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Surf, 207 Main St. in Nashua, 595-9293, [www.surfseafood.com](http://www.surfseafood.com).

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Best locally produced TV show (commercial or public access)

**Best:** *New Hampshire Chronicle* on WMUR, channel 9, which airs weekdays at 7:30 p.m. See [www.wmur.com](http://www.wmur.com).

**Runner up:** *Scorch’s PFG-TV*, which airs on MyTV on Saturday nights at midnight. See [www.pfg-tv.com](http://www.pfg-tv.com).

**Honorable mention:** *Manchesterdam* on Manchester TV, cable channel 23. See [www.manchestertv.org](http://www.manchestertv.org).

### Best local radio show

**Best:** *Greg and the Morning Buzz*, which

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in 2002 when he won two silver medals in the Salt Lake City Olympics, but followed it up with a poor showing in the 2006 games. He bounced back in 2010 and now owns five Olympic medals. Miller has won the World Cup twice and the world championships four times.

Best local sports team



**Best: Manchester Monarchs.** The Manchester Monarchs, the affiliate of the Los Angeles Kings, are taking the Atlantic Division of the Eastern Conference by storm. The team, which went to the conference finals last year, currently sits in second place just two wins away from the top spot and is priming for the playoffs. Team president and governor Darren Abbott took over from Jeff Eisenberg about a year ago. Not only is the team seeing success on the ice, but the Monarchs have seen an increase in season ticket sales this year as well. “It’s been a lot of fun,” Abbott said. “I took over a great franchise and we’re just trying to keep it moving in the right direction.” The Monarchs made a run into the conference finals last year before falling short. “Our hockey product is definitely as good as it’s ever been,”

Abbott said, adding the Kings have a strong player development system. “We have a great roster. A lot of the players that went to the conference finals last year, they’re here this year. They’re young players but they’re playing like veterans. This is year 10, so maybe this could be the year we bring home the hardware.” The playoffs begin in April.



**Runner up: New Hampshire Fisher Cats.** The community has embraced the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, the Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, since they began playing ball in Manchester seven years ago. “It’s great to be in a city with so many wonderful choices for fans to enjoy sports at the professional level,” said Rick Brenner, president and general manager. The team finished last season with a record of 79-62. The Fisher Cats will unveil new team colors of red, white and blue when they open their home season Thursday, April 7. They’ll host the league all-star game July 13, and will be hosting a downtown block party at Veterans Park with games and music. “The businesses and fans are second to none,” Brenner said. “It’s a wonderful area to live and work.”



**Honorable mention: University of New Hampshire Wildcats men’s ice hockey.** Once again the men’s ice hockey team at UNH is in the thick of the Hockey East tournament. The 10th-ranked Wildcats, who finished second in Hockey East this year, battled Merrimack College in the Hockey East semifinals last weekend in Boston but ultimately lost. The team played at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester in January against Dartmouth College, a contest

the Wildcats lost 5-4, said Tom Wilkins, associate director of athletic media relations at UNH. The Wildcats will take on Miami University on Saturday, March 26, at the Verizon in the first round of the NCAA tournament

Best local solo performer



**Best: Tristan Omand.** Omand has come a long way from his first live performance at a Boy Scout function at a church when he was 12 — he is now gearing up to release his first full-length solo album, *Tolled Stories*, on April 5. “The ... most exciting, or rewarding, thing for me is that I wrote all of the songs and recorded [the album] myself in my bedroom,” said Omand, 24. His second love is film and books. “I’m like, a sucker for the [Manchester City Library], I’m there three to four days a week,” he said. Omand, of Manchester, said reading has helped him learn new words to help with the flow of his lyrics. After spending a summer in Brooklyn, N.Y., Omand realized that New Hampshire suited him and his writing best: “I just prefer this type of area, the people here are great and there is a wonderful music community here, too.” On being named “Best Solo Artist,” Omand said, “It feels good, I’ve never won anything before,” he said. “When I found out I was like ‘Should I celebrate? Nah, I’ll just practice more.’”



**Runner up: Alli Beaudry.** At 26, Beaudry recently got engaged, just bought a house and is getting married in October. She has served as musical director for the Manchester Community Players and runs a music program at the YMCA for inner-city elementary school students. “I have been very, very busy but I can’t complain — I’m really happy ... there is a lot to be inspired by,” she said. The Berklee College of Music graduate released her first CD in 2008 and has since been playing solo and with her band, Incandence, around New England, including a residency at Z Food and Drink in Manchester. “I’m just kind of really living it up musically,” Beaudry said. When she started singing at a young age, Beaudry said, her great-aunt asked her mother, “Have you ever really listened to what she does?” Beaudry, of Manchester, started voice lessons at age 5. “Now it’s come full circle — I’m the contemporary music teacher,” Beaudry said.



**Honorable mention: Josh Logan.** Logan loves “the reaction of the audience when certain songs hit them just right.” Logan, who appeared on the TV show *Rockstar: Supernova* in 2006, called his musical style “leagues different than anyone else locally.” “I don’t play the same cover songs as everyone else. My originals are unique and fresh,” Logan said. “It is strange that I got an honorable mention as a solo artist when I play with a band most of the time.” Logan performs at Fody’s Tavern in Nashua every Thursday and hosts an open-mike jam at Murphy’s Taproom in Manchester every Tuesday, where, he said, “there are always interesting and talented people to meet.”

airs weekdays from 5:30 to 10 a.m. on Rock 101 FM (101.1 FM) and WHEB (100.3 FM) and other New Hampshire stations. See [www.morningbuzzonline.com](http://www.morningbuzzonline.com).

**Runner up:** *NH in the Morning with Mike Morin and Tracy Caruso*, which airs weekdays from 5 to 10 a.m. on WZID (95.7 FM). See [www.wzid.com](http://www.wzid.com).

**Honorable mention:** *The Exchange* from NHPR, which airs weekdays at 9 a.m. (the show is rebroadcast at 8 p.m.). See [www.nhpr.org](http://www.nhpr.org).

Best local radio station

**Best:** WZID 95.7 FM. See [www.wzid.com](http://www.wzid.com).

**Runner up:** Rock 101 (101.1 FM). See [www.rock101fm.com](http://www.rock101fm.com).

**Honorable mention:** NHPR (89.1 FM in Manchester and Concord, 88.3 FM in Nashua). See [www.nhpr.org](http://www.nhpr.org).

Best local movie theater

**Best:** Cinemagic, 1226 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 644-4629, [www.cinemagicmovies.com](http://www.cinemagicmovies.com).

**Runner up:** Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 224-4600, [www.redrivertheatres.org](http://www.redrivertheatres.org).

**Honorable mention:** Chunky’s Cinema & Pub, 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua, 880-8055, [www.chunkys.com](http://www.chunkys.com).

Best community event

**Best of the best:** Winter Holiday Stroll, held on Main Street and the surrounding area in downtown Nashua the Saturday evening after Thanksgiving. See [downtownnashua.org](http://downtownnashua.org).

**Best of Concord:** Market Days & Summer Music Festival, held along Main Street in downtown Concord. This year’s event is

scheduled for Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16. See [downtownnashua.org](http://downtownnashua.org).

**Best of Manchester:** Glendi, the annual Greek food and culture festival at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 650 Hanover St. in Manchester, [www.stgeorge.nh.goarch.org](http://www.stgeorge.nh.goarch.org), held in mid-September.

**Best of Nashua:** Milford Pumpkin Festival, a three-day festival in early October celebrating all things pumpkin as well as music and other events. See [www.milfordpumpkinfestival.org](http://www.milfordpumpkinfestival.org).

Best place to take your kids

**Best of the best:** SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, 669-0400, [www.see-sciencecenter.org](http://www.see-sciencecenter.org).

**Best of Concord:** White Park in Concord, between Washington and Liberty streets and White and Centre streets.

**Best of Manchester:** Kaleidoscope Children’s Museum, 250 Commercial St. in Manchester, 606-3381, [www.kaleidoscope-childrensmuseum.net](http://www.kaleidoscope-childrensmuseum.net).

**Best of Nashua:** Chunky’s Cinema & Pub, 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua, 880-8055, [www.chunkys.com](http://www.chunkys.com).

Best place to take kids on a snowy/rainy day

**Best of the best:** SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, 669-0400, [www.see-sciencecenter.org](http://www.see-sciencecenter.org).

**Best of Concord:** McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive in Concord, 271-7827, [www.starhop.com](http://www.starhop.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Kaleidoscope Children’s Museum, 250 Commercial St. in Manchester, 606-3381, [\[childrensmuseum.net\]\(http://childrensmuseum.net\).](http://www.kaleidoscope-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

**Best of Nashua:** Chunky’s Cinema & Pub, 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua, 880-8055, [www.chunkys.com](http://www.chunkys.com).

Best place to take visiting relatives

**Best:** Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, 669-6144, [www.currier.org](http://www.currier.org).

**Runner up:** Anheuser-Busch Brewery, 221 DW Highway in Merrimack, 595-1202, [www.anheuser-busch.com](http://www.anheuser-busch.com).

**Honorable mention:** Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road in Canterbury, 783-4238, [www.shakers.org](http://www.shakers.org).

LOOKING FOR LOVE  
Best pick-up place

**Best of the best:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, [www.blackbrimmer.com](http://www.blackbrimmer.com).

**Best of Concord:** Tandy’s Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614, [www.top-shelf.biz](http://www.top-shelf.biz).

**Best of Manchester:** The Derryfield, 625 Mammoth Road in Manchester, 623-2880, [www.thederryfield.com](http://www.thederryfield.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Martha’s Exchange Restaurant & Brewing Co., 185 Main St. in Nashua, 883-8781, [www.marthas-exchange.com](http://www.marthas-exchange.com).

Best date place

**Best of the best:** UnWine’d, 865 Second St. in Manchester, 625-9463, [www.unwined.net](http://www.unwined.net).

**Best of Concord:** Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 224-4600, [www.redrivertheatres.org](http://www.redrivertheatres.org).

**Best of Manchester:** Firefly American

Bistro & Bar, 22 Concord St. in Manchester, 935-9740, [www.fireflynh.com](http://www.fireflynh.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Studio 99, Mechanic St. in Nashua, 562-5179, [www.studio99nashua.com](http://www.studio99nashua.com).

Best make-out spot

**Best:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, [www.blackbrimmer.com](http://www.blackbrimmer.com).

**Runner up:** Rock Rimmon Park, West Side of Manchester.

**Honorable mention:** Lake Massabesic, east side of Manchester and in Auburn.

Best break-up spot

**Best:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, [www.blackbrimmer.com](http://www.blackbrimmer.com).

**Runner up:** Mall of NH, 1500 S. Willow St. in Manchester.

**Honorable mention:** Via text — ooo, harsh.

NIGHTLIFE  
Best bar for live music

**Best of the best:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, [www.blackbrimmer.com](http://www.blackbrimmer.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St. in Manchester, 666-4292, [www.strangebrewtavern.net](http://www.strangebrewtavern.net).

**Best of Nashua:** Peddler’s Daughter, 48 Main St. in Nashua, 821-7537, [www.thepeddlersdaughter.com](http://www.thepeddlersdaughter.com)

Best spot for comedy

**Best of the best:** Boynton’s Taproom, 155 Dow St., third floor, in Manchester, 623-7778,

Best local band playing mostly original songs



**Best: JamAntics.** Fiddle player Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, 24, said JamAntics incorporates elements of funk, pop, rock and jazz into their music. “We sort of jam it out,” he said. “That is where part of our name comes from.” Recently, the five-member band performed from 9 p.m. to midnight at Crotched Mountain Ski Area and then drove in the middle of a blizzard to their next venue to play a set at 3:30 a.m. Traveling in a caravan of cars and vans, the band got lost and separated during the journey — and did not have any cell phone reception. “We all ended up in different parts of the state but luckily had all arrived within five minutes of each other and managed to play the second show, which ended at 6:30 a.m.,” Tirrell-Wysocki said. “We try to make sure that no two shows are ever the same, to keep things fresh for us and the fans,” he said.



**Runner up: Best Not Broken.** Having received accolades as a cover band, Best Not Broken is excited that their fans embrace their origi-

nal music, said band member Eric Jackson. Best Not Broken, Jackson said, will be back in the studio this April and hopes to release an original EP in the summer. Jackson, of Amherst, described the sound of the band’s original songs as “somewhere between bands like Coldplay and The Killers.” The name of the band, formed in 2007, came from the group’s plan to give back to the community. “We want to try to bring people back to music,” Jackson said. “It’s our way of being mindful that humanity is best not broken.”



**Honorable mention: Craving Lucy.** On Steve Archambault’s first day of high school, he noticed a senior girl at in the school auditorium. “She was the most stunning, beautiful girl I have ever seen in my life ... she gave me a half smile because she knew I was staring at her,” he said. Lisa, the girl whose face Archambault will never forget, has no idea she inspired the name of the band Craving Lucy. “I changed her name to Lucy because it had more rock connotation, more color and more character,” vocalist Archambault said. Formed in 2005, the band that was formerly named “Bionic” has had two singles in rotation on Sirius XM, Music Choice and Octane for 20 solid months. The band is also being filmed for a documentary. The four band members perform in local cover bands, including Mugsy, to fund the group’s career. “Anytime you can play and sing and make money, you do it,” Archambault said.

www.boyntonstaproom.com.

**Best of Concord:** Capitol Center for the Performing Arts, 44 S. Main St. in Concord, 225-1111, www.ccanh.com.

**Best of Manchester:** The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-0246, www.the-shaskeen.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Fody’s Great American Tavern, 9 Clinton St. in Nashua, 577-9015, www.fodystavern.com.

Best larger music venue (not a bar/restaurant)

**Best:** Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St. in Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com.

**Runner up:** Tupelo Music Hall, 2 Young Road in Londonderry, 437-5100, www.tupelohalllondonderry.com.

**Honorable mention:** Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion in Gilford, www.meadowbrook.net.

Best bar/restaurant with an outdoor deck

**Best of the best:** The Derryfield, 625 Mammoth Road in Manchester, 623-2880, www.thederryfield.com.

**Best of Concord:** Makris Lobster and Steakhouse, 354 Sheep Davis Road in Concord, 225-7665, www.eatalobster.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Murphy’s Taproom, 494 Elm St. in Manchester, 644-3535, www.murphystaproom.net.

**Best of Nashua:** Pasta Loft, 241 Union Square in Milford, 672-2270, www.pastaloft.com.

Best bathroom

**Best of the best:** Billy’s Sports Bar & Grill, 34 Tarrytown Road in Manchester, 622-3644, www.billyssportsbar.com.

**Best of Concord:** Red Blazer, 72 Manchester St. in Concord, 224-4101, www.theredblazer.com.

**Best of Manchester:** Hanover Street Chophouse, 149 Hanover St. in Manchester, 644-2467, www.hanoverstreetchophouse.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Giorgio’s, 524 Nashua St. in Milford, 673-3939, giorgios.com.

Best dance club

**Best of the best:** Club 313, 93 South Maple St. in Manchester, 628-6813, www.myspace.com/club313.

**Best of Concord:** Tandy’s Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614, www.top-shelf.biz.

**Best of Manchester:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, www.blackbrimmer.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Amber Room, 53 High St. in Nashua, 881-9060, www.theamberroom-nightlife.com.

Best place to be seen

**Best of the best:** Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester, 669-5523, www.blackbrimmer.com.

**Best of Concord:** Tandy’s Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614, www.top-shelf.biz.

**Best of Manchester:** The Derryfield, 625 Mammoth Road in Manchester, 623-2880, www.thederryfield.com.

**Best of Nashua:** Studio 99, Mechanic St. in Nashua, 562-5179, www.studio99nashua.com.

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### Best local cover band



**Best: Nimbus 9.** Nimbus 9 loves being part of the party, said band member Mike Kemp, 27: "We've been told that our energy level is something that you don't see every day from cover bands — we're totally high-energy," "We want to see every single night be as fun as can be," he said. The five-member band enjoys playing contemporary pop music and throwback '90s music ("This Is How We Do It" by Montell Jordan is one of their favorites) but the most fun song to play, Kemp said, is "I've Got A Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas. "I don't know what it is about that song but the room just explodes every time we play it," he said.



**Runner up: Tom Dixon Band.** The Tom Dixon Band "busted open a lot of rock clubs that hadn't had any country bands play before" in New Hampshire, said front man Tom Dixon, 32, of Londonderry. "The country line dancing scene was disappearing.... We knew we had to bring it back to make country music more interesting to everybody." While the

band gets the crowd going with hits from Big and Rich and Jason Aldean, it also honors country roots with Johnny Cash classics. The five-member band is currently recording their second album at Indie Fair Studios in Londonderry; their first was released in 2007. "I love music, I love country music, I love what we do. It's in my blood," Dixon said.



**Honorable mention: Mama Kicks.** Three of Mama Kicks' four members have garnered national attention in

being tapped by Godsmack front man Sully Erna to write for and perform on his recent album and join him on tour. While they're on the road, band member Gardner "G-Man" Berry said he will fill gigs with other players. Berry, 61, said he had always wondered why Lisa Guyer, his bandmate since 1988, had not seen more national success. "Of all the singers I know, she certainly deserves the success. Chris [Lester] and David [Stefanelli] are great musicians, so they deserve whatever comes their way," he said. Berry said he always looks forward to going to work. "It is very rewarding for me," he said.

### Best live DJ



**Best of the best: DJ Midas, John Manning.** Manning performs once a month at the Amber Room in Nashua. He got his first DJ setup at age 11 and within a year, he was mixing school

dances and family reunions. "Don't ask me why

### Best place to go after last call

**Best of the best:** Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St. in Manchester, 626-1118, [www.redarrowdiner.com](http://www.redarrowdiner.com).

**Best of Concord:** Beijing & Tokyo Lounge, 61 South Main St. in Concord, 228-0888, [beijingtokyooncordnh.com](http://beijingtokyooncordnh.com).

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave. in Manchester, 623-5040, [www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner](http://www.thecman.com/restaurants/airport-diner).

**Best of Nashua:** Sausage King, which has a restaurant at 53 Main St. in Nashua, 204-5110, and outside of Martha's Exchange in Nashua on some evenings during warm weather. See [www.thesausagekingofnashua.com](http://www.thesausagekingofnashua.com).

### Best place to people-watch

**Best of the best:** Mall of NH, 1500 S. Willow St. in Manchester.

**Best of Concord:** Walmart, 344 Loudon Road in Concord, 226-0715.

**Best of Manchester:** Manchester Boston Regional Airport, exit 2, Brown Avenue, off Interstate 293 in Manchester.

**Best of Nashua:** Pheasant Lane Mall, 310 DW Highway in Nashua.

### Best place to play pool

**Best of the best:** Jillian's Billiard Club of Manchester, 50 Phillippe Cote St. in Manchester, 626-7636, [manchester.jillians-billiards.com](http://manchester.jillians-billiards.com).

**Best of Concord:** Tandy's Top Shelf, 1 Eagle Square in Concord, 856-7614, [www.top-shelf.biz](http://www.top-shelf.biz).

**Best of Manchester:** Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-0029.

**Best of Nashua:** Boston Billiard Club, 55 Northeastern Boulevard in Nashua, 943-5630, [www.bostonbilliardclub.com](http://www.bostonbilliardclub.com).

### Best pub

**Best of the best:** Wild Rover Pub, 21 Kosciuszko St. in Manchester, 669-7722, [www.wildroverpub.com](http://www.wildroverpub.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St. in Concord, 228-6363, [www.the-barleyhouse.com](http://www.the-barleyhouse.com).

**Best of Manchester:** The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St. in Manchester, 625-0246, [www.the-shaskeen.com](http://www.the-shaskeen.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Peddler's Daughter, 48 Main St. in Nashua, 821-7537, [www.thepeddlersdaughter.com](http://www.thepeddlersdaughter.com)

### Best sports bar

**Best of the best:** Billy's Sports Bar & Grill, 34 Tarrytown Road in Manchester, 622-3644, [www.billyssportsbar.com](http://www.billyssportsbar.com).

**Best of Concord:** The Draft Sports Bar and Grill, 67 S. Main St. in Concord, 227-1175, [www.draftsportsbar.com](http://www.draftsportsbar.com).

**Best of Manchester:** J.W. Hill's Sports Bar & Grille, 795 Elm St. in Manchester, 645-7422, [www.jwhills.com](http://www.jwhills.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Nashua Garden, 121 Main St. in Nashua, 886-7363.

## OUTDOORS

### Best local hiking trail

**Best:** Mine Falls Park in Nashua.

**Runner up:** Lake Massabesic, which has a parking lot on Depot Road near the Auburn-Manchester line.



people let me [do that],” he said. “Once I hit 18 I started doing clubs, radio, raves and festivals.” His favorite music to mix with is funk: “There is so much trippy, electronic funk coming out right now, with cool bass lines and vocals.” Manning finds his inspiration within, he says. “I think about all my favorite artists, whether they are musicians, DJs, painters and people that I’ve met, plus feelings that I’ve had as a music-lover.” His favorite part of his job is sharing new music with people. “The best feeling you get is introducing someone to their next favorite song.” Manning does a radio show out of Manchester every Tuesday night from 9 p.m. to midnight that can be found at [www.mixlr.com/meltdowncity/live](http://www.mixlr.com/meltdowncity/live).



**Runner up: DJ Bob, Bob Caccamesi.** DJ Bob can be found every Friday and Saturday night at Club 313 in Manchester. He remembers starting to collect his own club music in the ‘90s. Once he realized he had a big enough collection, he met a Boston DJ by the name of Joe Jazz and the rest is history. “At the end of a tough work week people want to relax at a night club or bar, and I like being the guy that gets to take them to another place,” said Caccamesi. “I’ll play 20 minutes of hip-hop and reggae, then 20 minutes of mainstream house and then 20 minutes of Top 40...I like to mix it up.” Caccamesi wants to thank his family and Dan and the staff at Club 313 for everything they’ve done, as well as all the “people that come out to party with me.”



**Honorable mention: DJ Dave, Dave Martinez.** Martinez performs at the American Legion in Manchester on Fridays and Saturdays. He began doing a

**Honorable mention:** Mt. Uncanoonuc hiking trails in Goffstown, see [goftowntrails.com](http://goftowntrails.com).

**Best city park**

**Best of Concord:** White Park in Concord, between Washington and Liberty streets and White and Centre streets.

**Best of Manchester:** Livingston Park, off Hooksett Road in north Manchester.

**Best of Nashua:** Greeley Park, off Concord Street in Nashua.

**Best state park**

**Best:** Bear Brook State Park, 157 Deerfield Road in Allentown, 485-9874, [www.nhstateparks.org](http://www.nhstateparks.org).

**Runner up:** Pawtuckaway State Park, 128 Mountain Road in Nottingham, 895-3031, [www.nhstateparks.org](http://www.nhstateparks.org).

**Honorable mention:** Odiome Point State Park, Route 1A in Rye, 436-7406, [www.nhstateparks.org](http://www.nhstateparks.org).

**Best swimming hole**

**Best of Concord:** Sewell Falls in Concord.

**Best of Manchester:** Pool at Livingston Park, off Hooksett Road in north Manchester, 624-6565, [www.manchesternh.gov](http://www.manchesternh.gov).

**Best of Nashua:** Rocky Pond in Hollis.

**Best sledding hill**

**Best of Concord:** White Park in Concord, between Washington and Liberty streets and White and Centre streets.

**Best of Manchester:** Next to The Derryfield, 625 Mammoth Road in Manchester,

family karaoke show in 1997 at Milano’s Sports Bar in Nashua. In 2001 he started his own company, DJ Dave Entertainment. “I think people are afraid to try karaoke, because it’s not for everyone. But what is? If I could define karaoke and what it does for people: it’s a way to have fun and celebrate music and yourself.” Martinez finds inspiration for his mixes by taking in the crowd and assessing their age. “People appreciate the music of their youth. It’s not rocket science — people want to feel young.”

**Best local comedian**



**Best: Nick Lavallee.** Born and raised in Manchester, Lavallee, 31, has been doing standup comedy for two years, in which time he has opened for Bo Burnham, released a standup album on iTunes, and produced videos on [www.funnyordie.com](http://www.funnyordie.com) (including a makeout session with Sally Struthers). He will open for Bob Marley in Concord on April 29. When asked if he dreams of having a comedy career as big as Will Ferrell’s, Lavallee responded that his goal is to be “successful by using what I call the new L.A., the new NYC: the Internet.” Lavallee says his parents are the biggest

623-2880, [www.thederryfield.com](http://www.thederryfield.com).

**Best of Nashua:** Roby Park off Spit Brook Road in Nashua.

**LIVING HERE**

**Best thing about your city**

**Best of Concord:** Downtown — Concord’s downtown won lots of praise from voters.

**Best of Manchester:** Bars and restaurants — Manchester’s food and nightlife scene beat out downtown as the most favored thing about the city. It’s worth noting that “diversity” also got a fair amount of votes.

**Best of Nashua:** Downtown — in the Gate City, the downtown beats out location and the restaurant scene.

**Best thing about New Hampshire**

**Best: Outdoors.** Voters named the state’s outdoors as their favorite thing — from the natural beauty to the many activities available year-round. Our mountains, beaches, greenery, ski hills, etc. beat out even our “live free or die” spirit, which was readers’ second-favorite thing.

**Best thing we forgot to ask about**

**Best: Best face painting: Making a Face** — see the work of face-painter Karol DiPietro at [www.makeaface4u.com](http://www.makeaface4u.com).

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inspiration for his jokes. "My mom is unintentionally the funniest person I know; she is funny to laugh with. My dad is funniest to laugh at. My brothers laugh beside me." Lavallee enjoys standup in New Hampshire mostly because of the "bittersweet attitude where people are quick to laugh at themselves...it makes my job that much easier. What's in the air?"



**Runner up: Cory J Turner.**

Turner, always the class clown in school, says he was always the only one laughing at his jokes and that this award came out of left field. But Turner has been doing standup now for three years and is a regular at the Shaskeen in Manchester. He recalls his first night there: "I saw my friend Dave Carter there on stage and I was so impressed with it and the people laughing. So I went back the following week, not knowing I was supposed to reserve a spot before, with 20 of my closest friends and family," said Turner. "I begged the comics and ended up bribing Justin Silva. I paid him \$30 for his five minutes. It was the biggest rush I've ever felt." Right now, Turner is working with friends on a 40-minute dark comedy film called "Chuck Lobsterman" that he hopes to film in New Hampshire.



**Honorable mention: Alana Susko.**

Susko, 35, performs regularly at Fody's Tavern in Nashua. "I'm a mom of three and I work a full-time job. Fody's is a blessing and I get to work with comedians that are way more talented than me." Susko's children, ages 8, 12, and 14, love that she is a comedian. "They don't think I'm as funny as their friends, but they like me." Susko finds inspiration in her family. "My husband is an engineer and ignores me, so I act out. Some of the best comedy comes out of [family] dysfunctionality." Susko continues to work on her company Comedy On Purpose.

## Best mechanic



**Best of the best: Dennis Hanson at Hanson's Automotive Service,** 271 West Hollis St. in Nashua, 883-7029. Hanson said he figures his shop is connected with honesty and said it was a privilege to be recognized. "I grew up in it," Hanson said. "My dad ran a garage in...Maine and I've been around an automotive service station most of my life." The key is to be honest when dealing with customers, he said, adding he enjoys working with his customers each day. He takes customer service seriously. Hanson's shop takes in both foreign and American-made cars.



**Best of Concord: Jon Chartier at Commercial Tech Service,** 54 River Road in Bow, 225-8844. "It's just awesome," Chartier said of his selection.

Chartier was also recognized by Hippo readers last year. "Last year I was really surprised and I have to say this year I'm equally surprised." The shop is small and a little off the beaten path in Bow, he said. "We have a good customer base because we have good relationships with our customers," said Chartier, who got into the mechanic business right out of high school and has been in the industry since 1987. "I have to say helping people is the number-one thing," Chartier said. "The number of people we meet, that part of it never gets old."



**Best of Manchester: Ralph Brutus at Brutus Auto,** 148 Merrimack St. in Manchester, 624-8881, www.brutusautonh.com. Brutus, who is regularly honored in

the Hippo readers' poll, was humble when he received the news this year, and gave credit to the shop's other mechanics. "We have a good team, I'll say that much." "I think we're fair, we go beyond, we make sure things are all set," Brutus added. His father and his uncle spent lots of time working on cars. "I grew up changing tires," he said. Brutus Auto, which opened in 2000, works on all makes and models. "There's a lot to like about it," he said, "especially fixing a problem that couldn't be found before."



**Best of Nashua: Mike Larivee at Mike's Auto Service,** 107 Boston Post Road, Amherst, 673-3134. Larivee said his first response when one of his

mechanics told him the news was, "See...it pays off, good quality work pays off." Larivee said he and his mechanics, who are all graduates of a technical school, strive for honesty and consistency. His father owned a garage in Manchester, and from the time Larivee was old enough to work on cars, that's what he was doing. "I just loved being a mechanic," he said. When he turned 18, Larivee's dad told him he couldn't work in his shop any more unless he went to college. Larivee wanted to go. "[My father] taught me the right way right from the get-go," he said. In 1986, Larivee, 27 at the time, opened his shop in Amherst. He took in two mechanics as interns and the three of them hit it off. Now at 25 years in business, they're all still working together.

## Best teacher



**Best of Concord: Heidi Welch of Hillsborough-Deering High School.** Heidi Welch said her job as Hillsboro-Deering High School director of music

never feels like work: "I get to play all day long." She has been teaching for many years and feels "honored and privileged," by this award. She said several former students are studying to teach music at the University of New Hampshire. "I am so glad I get to know them during this brief four-year period," Welch said. She enjoyed teaching younger kids but when an opening became available at Hillsboro-Deering High School in 1998, she took it, and says from the moment she entered the building she knew it was the place for her.





**Best of Manchester: Sarah Brancone of Parker-Varney Elementary School** in Manchester. It is becoming a tradition for Sarah Brancone. The third-grade teacher at Parker-Varney Elementary School has won Best Teacher of Manchester three years in a row. "It is very flattering," Brancone said. It is also validation for a career choice she made in kindergarten. "I had a wonderful kindergarten teacher named Mrs. Smith," Brancone said. "She made learning so fun. I had a lot of wonderful teachers along the way."



**Best of Nashua: Tray Sleeper of Merrimack High School.** Before Sleeper went to China in 1988, he had been many things, including a carpenter and a truck driver.

When he talked to the Chinese they were most excited about his work as a part-time diving coach at the University of New Hampshire. When he explained that work the Chinese would say, "Oh, you're a teacher." So Sleeper decided to go all the way. He had studied chemistry in college, so when he returned to the U.S. he got certified to teach science, which he now does. He also gets to teach classes in alternative energy and technology. Last year, Sleeper and Jeff Capone became the first teachers to participate in the school's exchange program in Tanggu, China. Sleeper said it was a wonderful experience.

#### Best New Hampshire poet



**Best: Donald Hall.** It has been 70 years since Donald Hall wrote his first poem and he isn't slowing down. "When I was 14 years old I knew I wanted to do poetry," Hall said. "After all of these years, I haven't changed my mind." Hall, who was U.S. Poet Laureate in 2006, said he loves to mess with language. He'll have a new collection of poetry, *The Back Chamber*, coming out in September. In the meantime, Hall, who lives in Danbury, said he is also working on prose. Hall, who was born in 1928, attended Phillips Exeter Academy, Harvard and Oxford. Recently, President Barack Obama presented him with the 2010 National Medal of Arts.



**Runner up: T. James Edward.** "I just wanted to say thanks again," said poet T. James Edward of Epsom, about this award. Edward began writing when he was

15 as a means of expressing difficult emotions he was going through. His topics now reflect the way he looks at the world. "I also wanted to add that our language itself is what really drives me to get an evolution in my work," Edward said. He spreads his work via Facebook and Twitter and has talked many times at New England College.



**Honorable mention: Maxine Kumin.** "I feel duly humbled," wrote Kumin, the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, who lives in Warner. "But even though we bought this farm in 1963 and have lived here year round since '76, since we weren't born here I fear we are still flatlanders." Kumin was born and raised in Philadelphia. She was U.S. Poet Laureate in 1981. What is it that she loves so much about the written word? "I think it is the concision innate to poetry, that and the endless possibilities of metaphor," Kumin wrote. And she has kept writing because "I guess I must think I still have something to say. As Yogi Berra said: *It ain't over till it's over.*"

#### Best New Hampshire author



**Best: Jodi Picoult.** "It is really a great honor to be the Best NH Author," wrote Jodi Picoult from her book tour for her newest novel, *Sing You Home*, which was released March 1. "I've been writing since I was five years old — it's not a shock to me that I became a writer...but it is a continual wonder that anyone wants to read the things I write! I grew up in NY but moved to NH 15 years ago — and I really enjoy writing stories in which New England features prominently. This award almost makes me feel like I've been accepted as a native daughter!" For Picoult, home is Hanover, where she lives with her husband, their children and several animals, according to her website. The 44-year-old is the author of 18 novels, four of which debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list.



**Runner up: Dan Brown.** Dan Brown's breakout novel, *The Da Vinci Code*, sold more than 80 million copies. According to his Facebook page, Brown is a 1982 graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and a 1986 graduate of Amherst College. His most recent work is *The Lost Symbol*, a sequel to *The Da Vinci Code*.



**Honorable mention: Janet Evanovich.** "Not to sound trite, but I love everything [about being a writer]," wrote Janet Evanovich via e-mail as she is on deadline for a new project. "I love getting up the morning and stumbling up to my office with my mug of coffee and the itch to re-inhabit the world I've created. I love the nervous flutter in my stomach when ... I send the manuscript off to my editor. ... I also like the book tours." Evanovich said she was honored to win Honorable Mention. The author of more than 20 novels, including the popular Stephanie Plum series, splits her time between New Hampshire and Florida.

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### Sunday, March 27

Manchester keeps the St. Patrick's Day spirit going with the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade today at noon down Elm Street in downtown Manchester — rain or shine. Before the parade, head to the Wild Rover, 21 Kosciusko St., for a traditional Irish breakfast buffet from 7 to 10 a.m. featuring eggs, potatoes O'Brien, Irish bacon, sausage, Black & White puddings, beans, pancakes and honey Caraway biscuits. The breakfast costs \$9.99 for adults, \$5.99 for kids under 12. After the parade, keep the party going with a pint and a bite downtown. The Shaskeen, 909 Elm St., will feature Irish music from the Spain Brothers from 2 to 5 p.m. The Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St., will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and the band Yoke Shire will perform from 1 to 4 p.m. See [www.saintpatsnh.com](http://www.saintpatsnh.com) for more.



### Thursday, March 24

See Sarah Vowell, author of *Unfamiliar Fishes*, a book that chronicles the further adventures of New England Puritans and their role in the Americanization of Hawaii, tonight at 6 p.m. at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 224-4600, [www.redrivertheatres.org](http://www.redrivertheatres.org). Tickets cost \$6 or are free with purchase of the book from neighboring Gibson's Bookstore, which is co-sponsoring the event.



### Saturday, March 26

Today will see about 20 booth sales outside area Lowes (in Amherst, Bedford and Manchester), Shaw's (Merrimack, Derry, Londonderry, Epping and Hooksett), Walmart (Derry, Londonderry and Hooksett) stores.

This is the final weekend of Girl Scout cookie booth sales. Go to [www.girlscoutsgwm.org](http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org) for a list of sale locations. Other scheduled sales this weekend include outside the 5 Guys Burgers and Fries on Crystal Ave. in Derry on Friday, March 25, from 4 to 8 p.m.; at Bentley Commons, 66 Hawthorne Drive in Bedford, on Friday from 2 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Walmart, 344 Loudon Road in Concord.



### Saturday, March 26

Get a night of comedy for \$20 at the Hudson VFW, 15 Brockes Road in Hudson just off Route 111. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., the show starts at 8:30 p.m. Steve Bjork and Jimmy "PJ" Walsh will headline, Michael Smith will host the show. The event benefits Camp Pride, a program for special-needs children. Get tickets in advance by contacting Jeri at 320-3614 or [lionjeri@comcast.net](mailto:lionjeri@comcast.net) or Pat at 595-4615 or [grumpspedo@comcast.net](mailto:grumpspedo@comcast.net) or [camppride2008@yahoo.com](mailto:camppride2008@yahoo.com). The evening will also include snacks, a cash bar and raffles.



### Saturday, March 26

It's the last scheduled day of the Concord Winter Farmers Market, held at Cole Gardens greenhouse, 430 Loudon Road in Concord, 229-0655, [www.colegardens.com](http://www.colegardens.com). Head there between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for dairy, seafood, meats, garlic, jams, jellies, maple products, bread, cider and more.

### Free: Sunday music

Head to the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St. in Nashua, 589-4610, [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org), for "Not Your Father's St. Patrick's Day" with harp, cello, poetry and song performed by the Aine Minogue Trio at 2 p.m. Or go to the Community Church, 17 Main St. in Durham, to celebrate Bach's birthday with a free organ concert at 3 p.m. Call 224-1535 for more.

### Cheap: A little bit of everything

The annual Try It and Buy It Expo will be held at the Radisson Hotel/Center of NH in Manchester, Friday, April 1, through Sunday, April 3. The expo features candies, gourmet popcorn and marshmallows, barbecue sauces and more, as well as fine woodworking, jewelry, books by local authors, home décor items, accessories and bath and body products. Hours are Friday from 1-8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. Go to [millyardcommunications.com](http://millyardcommunications.com) and click on "Made in NH" on the left-hand bar.

### Splurge: A world tour

WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, [www.winenotboutique.com](http://www.winenotboutique.com), will hold a six-week course on "Premium Wines of the World" starting on Saturday, April 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. with "Wines of Austria, Germany and Alsace region of France." During each class, students will taste six or seven wines from around the world and learn about regional wine styles within each country. Classes cost \$35 and \$40 each, or \$210 for all six.



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# Report card for the arts in NH schools

Survey finds they're inexpensive

By Adam Coughlin  
acoughlin@hippopress.com

For years, opponents of arts education have used the argument that such programs are costly and weigh heavily on school budgets. But a recent survey has found quite the contrary and shows that art teachers are quite resourceful in using the materials they have on hand.

In fact, 67 percent of the 153 New Hampshire public schools to respond to a recent survey spend \$20 or less per student per year on materials and resources for all arts education combined not including capital expenditures and teacher salaries. Even more, 15 percent spend \$1 or less per student per year.

Such data-driven statistics are new for arts educators and arts organizations who, for years, have relied on anecdotal evidence to show why the arts are valuable in school. As school boards and politicians look to quantify education through statistics, the New Hampshire State Department of Education teamed up with the State Council on the Arts and the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire in a project known as Measuring Up: NH Arts Education Data Project. In this first-ever statewide assessment of school art programs, 153 public schools representing 84,840 students or roughly 43 percent of the entire student population participated in a free online survey that asked about curriculum, funding, classroom space, use of artists in residence programs, and related matters.

"People are really surprised by the amount of information we collected," said Marcia McCaffrey of the Department of Education. "We can now show the information in a unique way and tell a story we've never been able to before."

McCaffrey said the report eliminates false misconceptions about the arts. The first McCaffrey pointed to was that art programs are so costly. She said there is a great deal of student art work at the Department of Education office in Concord. She said the quality of the work is impressive and upon closer inspection

you'll find the works are made of simple materials like construction paper, markers and scissors.

"Teachers are very resourceful," McCaffrey said.

The report found that a good deal of students are being exposed to the arts in school. Eighty-eight percent of elementary students participate in both music and visual arts classes for about 50 minutes per week in each art form, while 73 percent of high schools have policies that exceed the state graduation requirement of one-half credit in the arts.

Such exposure to the arts is important for students in an ever-changing world, according to McCaffrey.

"The arts work through a variety of mediums that support all disciplines," McCaffrey said. "They are part of the learning process in school."

Despite their importance and prevalence, the report found that 50 percent of schools that weigh grades did not include the arts when calculating students' grade point averages. Yet 100 percent of schools received outside dollars to support arts education. Fifty-four percent of those funds came from parent-teacher organizations, while only 2 percent came from local businesses.

The report was released within days of Division 1 of the House Finance Committee announcing its intention to cut a large portion of the State Council on the Arts' budget. This reduction of an estimated \$400,000 would all but eliminate the organization, according to several arts patrons. Such a loss would be felt in the schools, as 30 percent of schools that responded had worked with at least one artist in residence, which is a program run by the State Council on the Arts. And 44 percent of those schools found the program provided knowledge about other cultures.

"I believe the arts are an important component of education for the whole child, preparing students more completely for success in college, career and life," Dr. Virginia Barry, Commissioner of Education, said in the report.

The report's authors came up with several recommendations, which McCaffrey hoped would be read by a wide cross-section



Marcia McCaffrey, Arts Consultant & School Improvement, New Hampshire Department of Education, speaks at a roll-out event for "Measuring Up: The NH Arts Education Data Project" held at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester on March 9. Courtesy photo.

of the community including teachers, parents and policy-makers. These recommendations aren't just about pouring more money into the arts, but about incorporating arts, and the way they engage students' thoughts, more fully into the curriculum. Such recommendations include using arts-based strategies to support student learning, increasing technology opportunities in the arts for students and building on this newly collected database.

The complete report is posted at [www.aannh.org/measuringup](http://www.aannh.org/measuringup).

## 34 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail [arts@hippopress.com](mailto:arts@hippopress.com).

## 38 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail [arts@hippopress.com](mailto:arts@hippopress.com)

## 40 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail [arts@hippopress.com](mailto:arts@hippopress.com).

### ART LISTINGS

#### Art events

- **YOUTH ART MONTH EXHIBIT** Students from the Concord School District will have their works on display through March 30 at the Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord. Call 224-1523.
- **ONE-DAY CULTURAL EXCURSION** to the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass. will be held on Fri., March 25. The bus will leave from the Visitor's Center at the University of New Hampshire at 8:30 a.m., and will return to the Center at 5 p.m. Costs \$40. Call 862-3713.

#### Gallery openings and events.

- **TWO EXHIBITS** "Rites of Man: Photography by Polly Brown" and "thINK: Boston Printmakers Members Show" will be on display through April 19 at the New England College Gallery, 15 Main St., Henniker. There will be an opening reception on Thurs., March 24, 4-6 p.m. Call 428-2329 or visit [www.nec.edu](http://www.nec.edu).
- **TEAMS I HAVE KNOWN** Original oil paintings by artist Mary Iselin will be shown on Sat., March 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Learning Center at Stonewall Farm, Chesterfield Road, Keene. The exhibition will take place during the 12th annual Sap Collecting Contest. Admission costs \$5. Call 876-4036 or visit [www.maryiselinfineart.com](http://www.maryiselinfineart.com).

- **SAVING WATER NEAR & FAR** A talk will be held Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Sharon Arts Center Exhibition Gallery in downtown Peterborough. The talk is free and open to the public. Call 924-7676 or visit [www.sharonarts.org](http://www.sharonarts.org).
- **SEEDING THAW** A night of artists and musicians on Sun., March 27, at 6 p.m. at Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua. Visit [www.nhlamppost.com](http://www.nhlamppost.com).
- **DIVING IN:** An In-depth Look Into the Common Loon's Fascinating and Mysterious Behavior will be shown on Wed., March 30, at 7 p.m. at the Merrimack Public Library, 470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack. Call 424-5021 or visit [www.merrimack.lib.nh.us](http://www.merrimack.lib.nh.us).
- **ALUMNI SHOW** Work 82 alumni of the Boston Institute of Fine Arts MFA program will be on display March 29 through April 30 at the Hargate Gallery at St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Fri., April 1, 6-8 p.m. Call 229-4644.

#### In the galleries

- **A BREATH OF FRESH AIR:** New paintings by Caryn Lynn Duncan will be on display through April 2 at Lucy's Art Emporium, 303 Central Ave., Dover. Visit [lucysartemporium.com](http://lucysartemporium.com).
- **ALL HORSE ART SHOW** Work of

- Cori Caputo on display through March 30 at Le Club Boutique's Art Wall, 41 Vaughan Mall, Portsmouth. Call 433-4412 or visit [www.coricaputo.com](http://www.coricaputo.com).
- **AMBIGUITIES AND LUCIDITIES:** Recent work by Ronnie McClure and Sheli Petersen will be on display through April 15 at the Rivier College Art Gallery, 420 S Main St., Nashua. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday, 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. and Friday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Visit [www.rivier.edu/art](http://www.rivier.edu/art) or call 897-8276.
- **AMERICAN TAPESTRY BIENNIAL 8** will run through May 1 at the American Textile History Museum, 491 Dutton St., Lowell, Mass. Visit [www.athm.org](http://www.athm.org) or call 978-441-0400.
- **ART ON THE WALL** Work of Bob LaPree will be on display at Manchester City Hall through April. There will be an additional reception on Thurs., April 14, 5-8 p.m. Call 582-3256.
- **BILL GILL** April artist of the month at the Wilton Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. Call 654-2581 or visit [www.wiltonlibrarynh.org](http://www.wiltonlibrarynh.org).
- **BLACK & WHITE** Multi-artist exhibit on display through May 17 in Gallery 6 at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. No admission fee is required to view the gallery only.

- Regular admission applies for families who wish to explore the rest of the museum. Call 742-2002 or visit [www.childrensmuseum.org](http://www.childrensmuseum.org).
- **BYRON & CYNTHIA NEIDERHELMAN** will be the artist of March at the Wilton Gregg Free Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. Call 654-2581 or visit [wiltonlibrarynh.org](http://wiltonlibrarynh.org).
- **CELEBRATING WINTER** Multi-artist show on display through April 2 at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit [www.seacoastartist.org](http://www.seacoastartist.org).
- **CHRIS BOWER** Photography exhibit will be on display through March at Canal Art & Framing, 1 Water St., Nashua. Gallery hours are Monday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Call 886-1459.
- **COME SPRING** New exhibit at artstream, 56 North Main St., Rochester, through April 30. Visit [www.artstreamstudios.com](http://www.artstreamstudios.com) or call 330-0333.
- **A CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCE** Show featuring the work of Roxanne Labbe & Don Desmarais will be on display through March 26 at East Colony Fine Art, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester. Call 624-8833 or visit [www.eastcolony.com](http://www.eastcolony.com).
- **ERICK INGRAHAM** Work will be on display through May 31 at New

- Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St., Route 101A, Milford. Open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Visit [www.nhantiquecoop.com](http://www.nhantiquecoop.com) or call 673-8499.
- **FRANK M. INGALLS** New permanent photography exhibit at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua. Call 883-0015.
- **GODFREY (JEFF) SLUDER** Work will be on display at the Forest Society's Conservation Center, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 224-9945.
- **ILLUSTRATOR EXHIBIT** Work by several children's book illustrators is on display at the Brush Gallery and Artists Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell, Mass. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Visit [www.thebrush.org](http://www.thebrush.org) or call 978-459-7819.
- **IMAGE: THE UNCOMMON PORTRAIT** New multi-artist exhibit through April 24 at the Portsmouth Museum of Art, 1 Harbour Place, Portsmouth. Hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 436-0332 or e-mail [info@portsmouthmfa.org](mailto:info@portsmouthmfa.org).
- **JANE KAUFMANN** March artist of the month at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Call 778-8282.
- **JON BROOKS:** A Collaboration

- with Nature will be on display through June 12 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum hours are Monday, and Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$10, \$9 for seniors and \$8 for student. Free for kids 18 and under. Call 669-6144 or visit [www.currier.org](http://www.currier.org).
- **JURIED STUDENT ART EXHIBITION** will be held through April 9 at the Marian Graves Mugar Art Gallery at Colby Sawyer College, 541 Main St., New London. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 526-3000 or visit [www.colby-sawyer.edu](http://www.colby-sawyer.edu).
- **LEGACY:** Works of Distinguished Former Faculty will be on display through April 6 at the Museum of Art, at the University of New Hampshire, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Museum hours are Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Call 862-3712 or visit [www.unh.edu/moa](http://www.unh.edu/moa).
- **LUKE BUFFENMYER** Paintings and drawings will be on display through March 28 at The Gallery at Wadleigh Library, 40 Chester St., Chester. Call 887-7416.
- **MICHAEL LEMIRE** Drawing exhibition will be on display through March 31 at NH Technical Institute Library, 31 College Dr., Concord. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday,



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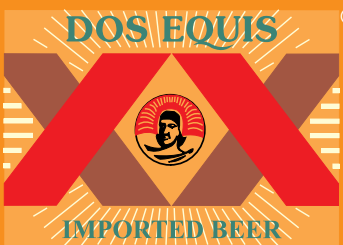


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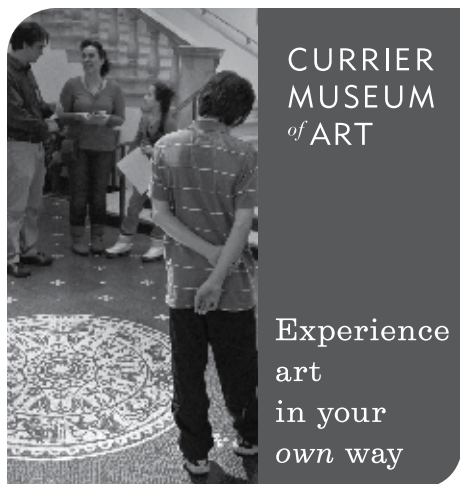
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## LOCAL COLOR

• **State Arts Council in jeopardy:** Division 1 of the House Finance Committee has proposed slashing the Division of the Arts budget from \$427,500 to about \$20,000 and cut out all the grants for the next two years and the staff that goes with it, effectively eliminating the state's art council, according to the NH Citizens for the Arts. These cuts come despite a budget proposal from Governor John Lynch that would have reduced the budget by only 5 percent. Marilyn Hoffman, president of the NH Citizens for the Arts, said the good news was that there was still a Department of Cultural Resources, as the film office, which produces a revenue to cost ratio of about 23 to 1, and the historical division were spared. The Arts Council, which has been around for about 45 years, took the brunt of the cuts. Hoffman and several other arts patrons opposed the cuts during a public hearing on the budget on Thursday, March 10, and are hopeful that when the Senate gets the budget such cuts can be reduced. Hoffman said many agencies were saddened by cuts but the arts are a solution to the state's problem, as the creative economy is a large revenue-generator for the state. She said a state also needs to have a local infrastructure to be

eligible to receive federal money for the arts, so the all-but-elimination of the arts council will seriously hurt New Hampshire's chances at that. Hoffman also mentioned the many people who are reached by the arts. She said last year 1.44 million individuals were served by the state's art council along with 448,000 students. "There has been a lot of turnover in our government, which is a good thing because they were duly elected," Hoffman said. But she also noted it was the duty of groups like the NH Citizens for the Arts to educate these representatives on the benefits of the arts.

• **Art and music in Nashua:** The Lamp-post, a business group in Nashua, will be hosting "Seeding Thaw," a collaborative night of art and music, on Sunday, March 27, at 5 p.m. at Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua. The work of local artists Carlo Ripaldi, Carla Sullivan, Ambitious Eva, Gary Destramp, and Matt Pidgeon will be on display and for sale. Following the gallery exhibit, live music will be performed by Scott Barnett Band, Russell Hill and Chuck Anastasiou of Animatronique. There is a \$7 cover charge. Visit [www.nhlamp-post.net](http://www.nhlamp-post.net) or see page 66 for more. —Adam Coughlin

7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. and Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 271-6484.

• **THE MASTERARTISTS SHOW** Multi-artist exhibit through May 14 at the Soo Rye Art Gallery, 11 Sagamore Road, Rye. Visit [www.soorye.com](http://www.soorye.com).

• **OPEN STUDIO NIGHTS** third Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. at Verdigris Artisans, 88 N. Main St., Suite 205, Concord, [www.verdigrisartisans.com](http://www.verdigrisartisans.com).

• **PASTELS** by Nashua artist Pauline Dailey will be on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.

• **PLEIN AIR WORKS** 10 artists will be on display through April 7 at the Cornerstone Gallery, 170 Main St., Newmarket. Gallery hours are daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 659-5000.

• **PRINT OF THE YEAR:** What's New in NH Printmaking. Work of 50 printmakers will be on display through April 1 at UNH School of Law, 2 White St., Concord. Call 228-1541.

• **REVIEW:** Recent Work by UNH Alumni will be on display through April 6 at the Museum of Art, at the University of New Hampshire, 30 Academic Way, Durham. Museum hours are Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Call 862-3712 or visit [www.unh.edu/moa](http://www.unh.edu/moa).

• **RIVER OF WORDS STREAM OF CONSCIENCE** An art installation created by hundreds of community members will be on display through April 30 at the Sharon Arts Downtown Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Visit [www.sharonarts.org](http://www.sharonarts.org) or call 924-2787.

• **SARAH ROCHE** March artist at RE/MAX Properties, 2 Ash St., Hollis. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call Pat Hurd at 882-1503.

• **SEEING IN COLOR** Multi-artist exhibit through April 2 at 119 Gallery, 119 Chelmsford St., Lowell, Mass. Visit [www.119gallery.org](http://www.119gallery.org)

• **SEEING THE LIGHT** Selection of photography from the early 1900s to the late 20th century on display through April 2 at Southern New Hampshire University's McIninch

## In a gallery near you



### Two for the price of none

"Rites of Man: Photographs by Polly Brown" and "thINK: Boston Printmakers Members Show" will be on display through April 29 at The Gallery at New England College, 15 Main St., Henniker. In her photography, Brown explores her relationship to the world of men in our culture. The Boston Printmakers, an association since 1947, created their exhibition to answer the many questions they receive about various printmaking techniques. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., and Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. There is an opening reception on Thursday, March 24, from 4 to 6 p.m. Admission is free. Call 428-2329 or visit [www.nec.edu](http://www.nec.edu). "Ice Fishing" by Polly Brown. Courtesy photo.

Art Gallery, 2500 North River Road, Manchester. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and Thursday, 5-8 p.m. Call 629-4622 or visit [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

• **SHIFTING BOUNDARIES** Multi-artist exhibit will be on display through March 27 at the Western Avenue Studios Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass. Visit [www.theloadingdock-gallery.com](http://www.theloadingdock-gallery.com) or call 978-349-8069.

• **SMALL MOMENTS** Work of Janice Donnelly will be on display through April 25 at the second-floor gallery at UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Visit [www.janicedonnelly.com](http://www.janicedonnelly.com).

• **STOPS ALONG THE WAY** Work of Bob Larsen will be on display through April 1 at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Call 225-2515 or visit [www.mcgowanfineart.com](http://www.mcgowanfineart.com).

• **SUBURBAN MEMORY** Work of artist Cindy Rizza will be on display through May 15 in the first-floor library at UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Visit [www.cindyrisza.com](http://www.cindyrisza.com).

• **THE MAGIC WITHIN** Work of Cori Caputo will be on display through March 30 at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests Con-

servation Center, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Call 224-9945.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown. Visit [www.silverhillsstudio.com](http://www.silverhillsstudio.com) or call 497-4674.

• **WINTER 2011 AT 100** Multi-artist exhibit on display through April 15 at 100 Market Gallery, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call Jean at 436-2818.

### THEATER LISTINGS

- **The Acting Loft**  
670 North Commercial Street, Manchester in the Jefferson Mill Building. 666-5999, [actingloft.org](http://actingloft.org)
- **Actorsingers**  
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, [actorsingers.org](http://actorsingers.org)
- **Adams Memorial Opera House**  
29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, [derryarts.org](http://derryarts.org)
- **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**  
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 2, [svbge.com](http://svbge.com)
- **Andy's Summer Playhouse**  
Wilton, 654-2613, [andysummerplayhouse.org](http://andysummerplayhouse.org)
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## THEATER

# Stage and canvas, together

### Paint Caesar Dead mixes visual and theater arts

By Adam Coughlin  
[acoughlin@hippopress.com](mailto:acoughlin@hippopress.com)

A seer once told Julius Caesar, “Beware the Ides of March.” It seems the seer should have also warned against splattering paint.

For the third time, actor and classicist Sebastian Lockwood will take the stage and bring to life and eventually death the story of Julius Caesar, the most victorious general in Roman history. But what makes this performance, titled *Paint Caesar Dead*, unique, is that as Lockwood builds to the plays climax — when Caesar is stabbed 23 times by conspirators in the street — about 10 students from the New Hampshire Institute of Art will be painting and illustrating on the stage alongside him.

“At the beginning it feels very chaotic,” Lockwood said. “The audience doesn’t know where to focus.”

But then the lights change and Lockwood begins the story and both he and the artists enter into a poetic rhythm. *Paint Caesar Dead* is based on Lockwood’s original work *Caesar the Man from Venus*, in which Lockwood suggests Julius Caesar descends from the female goddess Venus herself. Throughout the performance, Lockwood, using the first person, weaves viewers through some of Caesar’s “early adventures with the pirates, with the courts, his adventures with the wild and impossible Mark Antony and then his great conquest of Gaul with the surrender of Vercingetorix,” according to a description of the play found at [www.lumenarts.com](http://www.lumenarts.com).

There will also be students acting as centurions and playing other roles. The artists begin with blank canvases and work as the story unfolds, and all of their works will be directly related to the performance. When Caesar is stabbed so too do the artists stab their creations. When the performance is finished, the artists turn their works around so they can be enjoyed by the audience.

Lockwood said after he did the first performance of *Paint Caesar Dead*, people were surprised he would repeat it a second and now a third time. But he is very much an impromptu performer and so his energy and performance change depending on the artists on stage. He feeds on their rhythm and concentration and even when they look up when he tells a joke.

“My performance is sort of a like a dance,” Lockwood said.

Lockwood said there can be great contrast



Sebastian Lockwood. Ashley Beliveau photo.

between the works of the illustrators and the painters. He said the illustrators’ pictures might be a perfect representation, while the painters are affected by the mood. He said they may also paint several images on top of each other on a single canvas. Lockwood said one year he had a sculptor on stage and he hopes to get another one.

Lockwood loves working with the students and believes this project is a stretch for them. While many are seasoned artists, few have worked live in front of a crowd before or under such a strict deadline. As he relies so heavily on improvisation, Lockwood does not give many instructions to the students. Some thrive on this freedom, while others want more guidance.

“One student kept asking me what to do,” Lockwood said. “Finally, I told him to just do it.”

Lockwood, who performs other classics like *The Odyssey*, *Beowulf* and *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, decided the Caesar piece should be the one used with the artists because it was his own text and he could bring a whirlwind of energy to the piece. To hear Lockwood talk about Caesar is to hear passion personified.

Lockwood believes the Roman leader masterminded his own death because he was such a polarizing figure and knew he could never accomplish what he needed — to change Rome from a city made of stone into a city of marble — while he was alive.

He wrote his piece just as the HBO series *Rome* came out. Lockwood wanted to create a contrasting Caesar to the one portrayed in the show. His Caesar walks fearlessly into his destiny, which is a message Lockwood relays to his students all the time.

The performance will be held in the French Building at the Art Institute, which with its large columns looks like Jupiter’s temple, making it the perfect setting for the show.

“It is always fun to recreate Rome,” Lockwood said. “There is something deliciously depraved about Rome.”

### Paint Caesar Dead

**When:** Thursday, March 31, at 5 p.m.

**Where:** French Building auditorium, 148 Concord St., Manchester, [www.nhia.edu](http://www.nhia.edu), 836-2573

**Info:** [www.lumenarts.com](http://www.lumenarts.com)

Dana Center, 641-7700  
• **Bedford Off Broadway**  
Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, [bedfordoffbroadway.com](http://bedfordoffbroadway.com)  
• **Bedford Town Hall**  
70 Bedford Center Rd., Bedford  
• **Bedford Youth Performing Company**  
155 Route 101, Bedford, [www.bypc.org](http://www.bypc.org), 472-3894.  
• **Belle Voci**  
[bellevoci.org](http://bellevoci.org), 848-7986  
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44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)  
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224-0770, [concordchorale.org](http://concordchorale.org)  
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2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, [www.theaudi.org](http://www.theaudi.org)  
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224-4905, [communityplayersofconcord.org](http://communityplayersofconcord.org)  
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• **Manchester Community Music School**  
2291 Elm St., 644-4548, [mcmusicschool.org](http://mcmusicschool.org)



# Curtain Calls



Concord Community Music School has held Performathons for many years. Courtesy photo.

• **42nd Street at the Palace:** The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, will follow Artistic Director Carl Rajotte's original musical production, *The Four Piano Men*, with a long-time fan favorite, *42nd Street*. This Tony Award-winning musical is set in the 1930s and tells the story of young Peggy Sawyer and her unlikely rise to fame. The show made its Broadway debut in 1980 and has had many successful tours since. *42nd Street* will be performed March 25 through April 9. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and Saturday, April 9, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 to \$45. Call 668-5588 or visit [www.palacetheatre.org](http://www.palacetheatre.org).

• **Performathon in Concord:** No one can say the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord, doesn't work hard for its donations. The school will hold a Performathon on Saturday, March 26, from 9:30

a.m. to 5 p.m., with non-stop solo and ensemble performances by more than 200 of the school's students. The school has been performing these musical marathons since 1988, according to Peggy Senter of the music school. The fundraiser raises about 15 percent of the funding needed to support the school's annual financial aid fund. "We think of the performance not just as a fundraiser but as a community open house," Senter said. "It is a great way for people to see the variety and diversity of what the school offers." Besides the recitals, which last about 45 minutes each and will be performed in the school's two recital halls, there will be refreshments and an instrument petting zoo. The petting zoo allows older students to act as teachers and give instructions to youngsters on how to play certain instruments. "There is a lot to see and a lot of activities going on," Senter said. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmschool.org](http://www.ccmschool.org).

• **Big Year for Rep:** The Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) have nominated the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., for nine awards in the Large Theater category. In total, four of the theater's 2010 productions earned IRNE nominations, including Joey Collins, who was nominated for Best Actor for his role in *Beasley's Christmas Party*. The awards will be given later this spring in Boston. Visit [www.stagesource.org](http://www.stagesource.org) or [www.merrimackrep.org](http://www.merrimackrep.org).

• **Going to Boston:** Not Your Mom's Musical Theater will be taking its show *[title of show]* on the road to Boston for late June performances if it is able to get the rights. The group is currently raising funds for the trip. E-mail [notyourmoms@gmail.com](mailto:notyourmoms@gmail.com). —Adam Coughlin

- **Manchester Community Theatre and Second Stage Professional Co.**  
698 Beech St., Manchester, 627-8787
- **Milford Area Players**  
673-2258, [milfordareaplayers.org](http://milfordareaplayers.org)
- **Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps**  
PO Box 5197, Manchester, 674-7650, [www.muchachos.org](http://www.muchachos.org)
- **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**  
Londonderry, [madco.org](http://madco.org)
- **My Act**  
[myact.org](http://myact.org), 429-3950
- **Nashua Theatre Guild**  
PO Box 137, Nashua, 03061, 320-2530  
[nashuatheatreguild.org](http://nashuatheatreguild.org)
- **New Thalian Players**  
[newthalianplayers.org](http://newthalianplayers.org), 666-6466
- **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**  
505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
- **The Palace Theatre**  
80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)
- **Peacock Players**  
14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, [peacockplayers.org](http://peacockplayers.org)
- **Pittsfield Players**  
6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, [pittsfieldplayers.com](http://pittsfieldplayers.com)
- **Profile Chorus**  
[profilechorus.org](http://profilechorus.org)
- **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**  
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 20
- **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**  
125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4472
- **SNHU Drama Club**

## On stage



### Goodbye, Frost Heave, for now

*Frost Heaves*, the award-winning comedy show, will conclude its third season with a final performance on Friday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 26, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. The performance will include such spoofs as "How to Talk Like a Yankee," ScatterBan (a new medication for the scatterbrained), Grammatically Correct Pop Songs, and a new self-check grocery scanner designed just for Yankees. The Speed Bumps band will also perform. Tickets cost \$15. Call 525-3391 or visit [www.frostheaves.com](http://www.frostheaves.com). The Speed Bumps band (Mike Rousseau, Mark Crory, Ken Sheldon, and Tom Bielecki). Courtesy photo

2500 North River Rd., Hooksett

- **Stage One Productions Dinner Theatre at the Chateau Restaurant**  
201 Hanover St., Manchester 669-5511, [stageoneprod.com](http://stageoneprod.com)
- **Yellow Taxi Productions**  
[yellowtaxiproductions.org](http://yellowtaxiproductions.org)
- **RABBIT HOLE** will be performed through April 2 at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Performances are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$18-\$42. Visit [www.seacoastrep.org](http://www.seacoastrep.org) or call 433-4472.
- **THE PILLOWMAN** will be performed through March 27 at The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Performances are Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m. and Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 to \$14. Call 436-8123 or visit [www.playersring.org](http://www.playersring.org).

- **CALIFORNIA SUITE** will be performed Fri., March 25, and Sat., March 26, at 8 p.m. at the Bedford Old Town Hall, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. Tickets cost \$12 and \$10 for seniors and children under 12. Call 647-2864.
- **A CIVIL TONGUE** will be performed through March 27 at the West End Theater, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for seniors and students). Call 978-683-7745.
- **ALMOST, MAINE** will be performed Fri., March 25, and Sat., March 26, at 8 p.m. and Sundays, March 20 and March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Tickets cost \$12 (\$7 for seniors 60+ and students). Visit [www.milfordareaplayers.org](http://www.milfordareaplayers.org) or call 321-0973.
- **FROST HEAVES** Season concludes on Fri., March 25 and Sat.,

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March 26, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., March 26, at 2 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theater, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$15. Visit [www.frostheaves.com](http://www.frostheaves.com) or call 525-3391.

• **SCHOOL HOUSE ROCK! LIVE** will be performed on Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m. and Sat., March 26 at 2 and 7 p.m. and Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Peacock Players, 14 Court St., Nashua. Call 886-7000 or visit [www.peacockplayers.org](http://www.peacockplayers.org).

• **THE KING AND I** will be performed on Fri., March, 25, at 7:30 p.m., Sat., March 26, at 2 p.m., Fri., April 1, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., April 2, at 7:30 p.m. at Hollis-Brookline High School, 24 Cavalier Court, Hollis. Tickets cost \$10 (\$8 for students and seniors). E-mail [hbbstheatre@gmail.com](mailto:hbbstheatre@gmail.com) or call 465-3328.

• **THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS: THE MUSICAL!** will be performed on Fri., March 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hillsboro-Deering Middle School, 6 Hillcat Dr., Hillsboro. Admission is free. Visit [www.notyourmomsmusicaltheater.com](http://www.notyourmomsmusicaltheater.com).

• **THE COMPLETE WORLD OF SPORTS (ABRIDGED)** The Original Reduced Shakespeare Company will perform on Thurs., March 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Tickets cost \$29.50 (\$12.50 for NH college students). Call 641-7700 or e-mail [dana@anselm.edu](mailto:dana@anselm.edu).

• **SPRING DANCE ENSEMBLE** will be performed Fri., March 25, and Sat., March 26, at 7 p.m. at Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main St., New London. Tickets cost \$10 (\$5 for students). Call 526-3670.

• **42nd STREET** will be performed on Fri., March 25, Sat., March 26, Sat., April 2, and Fri., April 8, at 7:30

p.m., Sundays, March 27 and April 3, at 2 p.m., Fri., April 1, at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Sat., April 9, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$45. Visit [www.palacetheatre.org](http://www.palacetheatre.org) or call 668-5588.

• **MY HEART IN A SUITCASE** ArtsPower National Tour Theatre presents the story of WWII Kindertransport on Fri., March 25, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. at the Dana Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Call 641-7700 or e-mail [dana@anselm.edu](mailto:dana@anselm.edu).

• **THE NIGHTINGALE** A new ballet will be performed on Sat., March 26, at 2 & 7 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$6 and \$10. Call 746-2990.

• **PAGE TO STAGE** staged reading will be held on Sun., March 27, 3-5 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Free and open to the public. Call 225-2164.

• **ARLINGTON** will be performed April 1 through April 10 at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 (\$14 for students and seniors). Call 431-6644 ext. 5 or e-mail [reservations@nhtheatreproject.org](mailto:reservations@nhtheatreproject.org).

• **BROADWAY IN REVUE II** will be performed on Fri., April 1, at 7 p.m. and Sat., April 2, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Visit [www.unhm.unh.edu](http://www.unhm.unh.edu).

• **INTO THE WOODS** will be performed on Fri., April 1, Sat., April 2, Fri., April 8, and Sat., April 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. Tickets cost \$14 (\$12 for NH college students and kids under 14). Call 641-7700 or e-mail [dana@](mailto:dana@anselm.edu)

[anselm.edu](http://anselm.edu).

• **JANE EYRE** will be performed April 1 through April 10 at the Leddy Center, 38 Ladds Lane, Epping. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays and Wed., April 6, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 and \$16. Call 679-2781 or visit [www.leddycenter.org](http://www.leddycenter.org).

• **LARGO DESOLATO** will be performed April 1 through April 17 at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 to \$14. Call 436-8123 or visit [www.playersring.org](http://www.playersring.org).

#### CLASSICAL LISTINGS

• **SEEKING MUSICIANS** The Amherst Town Band is seeking new musicians on all instruments. They rehearse Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in the choral room at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst. Most band members are amateur musicians. Visit [www.amhersttownband.org](http://www.amhersttownband.org).

• **THE MERRIMACK CHORUS** meets Sundays 7-9 p.m. at the John O'Leary Adult Community Center, 4 Church St., Merrimack. Call Choral Director Jamie Saucier at 828-6739.

• **ALON GOLDSTEIN** The pianist will perform on Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Sant Bani School, 19 Ashram Road, Sanbornton. A reception will be held at 6 p.m. before the show. Tickets cost \$15 and children and students are free. Call 934-4240.

• **MUSIC OF OUR TIME AND PLACE** will be performed on Fri., March 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Tickets cost \$15 and \$12 for students and seniors. Visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org) or call 228-1196.

• **BROADWAY PIANO BAR** Man-

chester Choral Society will perform on Sat., March 26, 8:30-11 p.m. at XO Restaurant, 827 Elm St., Manchester. Sing your favorite songs. Cover charge is \$15. Call 472-6627 or visit [www.mcsnh.org](http://www.mcsnh.org).

• **PERFORMANCE** Students will perform in back-to-back recitals from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat., March 26, at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Free and open to the public. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org).

• **AINE MINOGUE TRIO** will perform on Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. The performance is free and open to the public. Call 589-4610 or visit [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org).

• **BACH'S BIRTHDAY BASH** Organ concert will be held on Sun., March 27, at 3 p.m. at the Community Church, 17 Main St., Durham. Admission is free. Call 224-1535.

• **NOT YOUR FATHER'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY** A performance of harp, cello, poetry and song on Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 589-4610 or visit [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org).

• **6th ANNUAL SHARE THE MUSIC GALA** will be held on Thurs., March 31, at 5:30 p.m. at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. Call 644-4548 or visit [www.mcmusicschool.org](http://www.mcmusicschool.org).

• **MUSICIANS OF WALL STREET RECITAL** will be held on Fri., April 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Tickets cost \$12 and \$10 for students and seniors. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org).

• **WINDBORNE VOCAL TRIO**

## On stage



### Celtics come to town

No, not the basketball team but a trio of talented musicians: Aine Minogue, an Irish harpist, vocalist, and folklorist, cellist Eugene Friesen and percussionist Noriko Terada. The trio will perform in a concert called "Not Your Father's St. Patrick's Day" on Sunday, March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, as part of the library's Celtic Heritage Month. Of Minogue's music, the Los Angeles Times wrote, "Anyone who's skeptical of the concept of heaven as a place where eternity is spent listening to harp music should hear this. Aine Minogue proves beyond reasonable doubt why the harp is indeed the instrument of angels." The concert is free and open to the public. Call 589-4610 or visit [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org). Harpist Aine Minogue. Courtesy photo.

will perform on Fri., April 1, at 7 p.m. at the Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough. The concert is free. Visit [www.windbornesingers.com](http://www.windbornesingers.com) or call 924-4555.

• **FIFTH ANNUAL CCMS PIANO COMPETITION** for young pianists will be held Sat., April 2, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. The event is free and open to the public. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org).

• **STUDENT PIANO QUINTET RECITAL** will be performed on Sat., April 2, at 4 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. The event is free and open to the public. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org).

• **NASHUA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA FAMILY CONCERT** will be performed on Sat., April 2, at 3:30

p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. The performance is free and open to the public. Call 589-4610 or visit [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org).

• **NICOLAI LOMOV** Pianist will perform on Sun., April 3, at 2 p.m. at the Rivier College Dion Center, 420 Main St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Call 897-8623.

• **YANNI** will perform on Wed., April 6, at 8 p.m. at Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Tickets cost \$49.75, \$59.75 and \$89.75. Call 978-454-2299 or visit [www.lowellauditorium.com](http://www.lowellauditorium.com).

• **BACH'S LUNCH LECTURE:** Talk to Me: How Jazz Players Communicate will be held on Thurs., April 7, 12:10-12:50 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. The event is free and open to the public. Call 228-1196 or visit [www.ccmusicschool.org](http://www.ccmusicschool.org).

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weeks before the event.

## Just another work day

Granite Pathways helps people with mental illness find a place in the community

By Tori Loubier  
tloubier@hippopress.com

There is a new family in Manchester. They talk about books and movies, play games, plan kayaking trips and eat lunch together. Each member works full time, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. But they are not your average family. In fact, they are not even related. What they do have in common is a goal of being productive with their time and interacting with others. They are members of Granite Pathways, a community home for people with mental illness.

Granite Pathways opened its doors just four months ago, in November 2010, and is in the process of becoming a certified Clubhouse — New Hampshire's only. Though it will probably take about three years to gain official certification, said Anna Rice, the executive director, Pathways follows all the same guidelines and rules that any Clubhouse would.

A Clubhouse is defined by the International Center for Club House Development (ICCD) as a "powerful demonstration of the fact that people with mental illness can and do lead normal, productive lives." ICCD Clubhouses provide members with opportunities to build long-term relationships that, in turn, support them in obtaining employment, education and housing.

Every day, members come into Granite Pathways and choose tasks or jobs that they will accomplish. Each member writes his name on a white board next to his job for the day. Individually or in groups, the members work with staff members to accomplish their tasks.

"Nobody has a desk here," said Mike Austin, one of the directors. "The members own it. People choose what they want to do. Every day is different and exciting with new members coming in."

Pathways is not a drop-in center and is in no way clinically or medically based. Membership is free and voluntary, though members do need some sort of doctor's note explaining their illness. Members choose the way they utilize the Clubhouse

and the staff with whom they work — there are no agreements, contracts or schedules.

Members like Stephanie Foster prefer the Clubhouse model for the interaction and relationships she is exposed to. "Instead of sitting around all day doing nothing, I come here and get to do fun things. I have more friends here," she said. Foster travels daily from Rochester to Manchester on the Safeway bus, whose driver brings her for free. Foster has been with Pathways since it opened and recently found her own assisted living housing in Manchester, which she plans to move to in the near future; she attributes this success to Pathways.

Angel Chabot, also a member, joined Pathways recently and is excited about learning how to work on a computer, an opportunity provided by joining the clubhouse.

"Members come in, pick their job and feel like they are part of a community," said Rice. "[As a member], you are able to organize, gain confidence, make friends and be a part of something."

The Clubhouse also works to form partnerships with other local businesses in order to create paid jobs for members. Through transitional employment, supported employment and independent employment, members have the opportunity to work toward a job of their own. Transitional employment placements are part-time and are limited to about 15 to 20 hours a week and six to nine months in duration.

Rice and Austin are the only two directors at Granite Pathways, which they explain is purposeful.

"We are intentionally understaffed so that members are forced to help and work together," said Carol L'Italien, a member.

The Clubhouse model is 60 years old, and there are currently 320 worldwide, including 32 in Massachusetts.

Why has it taken so long for this model to hit New Hampshire? Rice notes an elevated need, and the Pathways website states that there is evidence of growing mental health crisis in New



Members of Granite Pathways sit around the table to enjoy a St. Patrick's Day lunch. Tori Loubier photo.

Hampshire. "Mental illness hospitalizations have increased by 55 percent among adolescents and adults aged 15 through 49 between 1997 and 2006, and admissions to New Hampshire Hospital doubled," the website says.

"People saw family members not moving forward [with their mental illness]," Rice said. "This [model] is part of recovery. It's the same as medication, therapy. They need to get outside in their community."

Though the need is apparent, Pathways has already undergone intense resistance from the Manchester community, in which neighbors protested against the presence of such an organization. "The word 'Clubhouse' has a bad stigma," Rice said. After private funding was approved in 2009, Pathways was slated to open in May 2010 but was stalled because of such resistance.

"Society has married mental illness with crime. But really, it's a small percentage. You don't always see those with mental illness that are college graduates, starting their own businesses, etc.," said L'Italien. Austin added: "Nothing weird goes on here. Nothing scary. It's just a work day."

Granite Pathways

is holding a community open house on Wednesday., March 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The group is located at Brookside Church (Carriage House) at 2013 Elm St., Manchester. Visit [www.granitepathways.org](http://www.granitepathways.org) or call 665-5665.

CRAFTS

Fairs/Exhibits

• **SPRING CRAFT & SPECIALTY FOOD FAIR** Rockingham Park, Salem, March 26-27. Visit [www.castleberryfairs.com](http://www.castleberryfairs.com)

• **TRY IT AND BUY IT EXPO** Radisson Hotel/Center of NH in Manchester, April 1-3. 16th annual Made in NH expo features candies, gourmet popcorn and marshmallows, barbecue sauces and more, as well as fine woodworking, jewelry, books by local authors, home décor items, accessories and bath and body products. Hours are as follows: Friday, April 1, 1-8 p.m., Saturday, April 2, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday, April 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$8 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. Seniors will receive a \$1 discount with an I.D. All tickets may be purchased at the door.

• **QUILT SHOW 2011** NH Technical Institute, Goldie Crocker Wellness Center, Concord, Sat., April 2, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$6 general admission, \$5 seniors and students. Visit [www.capitalquiltersguild.com](http://www.capitalquiltersguild.com)

• **MARKET DAY** Crafts, vendors and white elephant sale at the First Congrega-

tional Church, 508 Union St., Manchester, Sat., April 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. To raise funds for Church mission trips. Custom jewelry, crafts, gently used clothing, toy chest and home good, as well as a bake sale.

Sewing

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** on Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon, at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, [levesquesewvac.com](http://levesquesewvac.com)) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.

• **MERRI STITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-0185, [merristitches.com](http://merristitches.com)) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the website for a schedule at each store.

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW

Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757 [nashuasewandvac.com](http://nashuasewandvac.com)) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, [newenglandfabrics.com](http://newenglandfabrics.com)) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.

• **NH ACADEMY OF SEWING** (Canterbury, 783-9270, [nhacademyofsewing.com](http://nhacademyofsewing.com)) offers classes covering all aspects of garment sewing, pattern fitting, pattern drafting, and fit; classes range from learning to sew to making a garment. Private lessons are also available.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (57 North Main St., Concord, 223-2344, [peggyannes.com](http://peggyannes.com)) offers classes on quilting, sewing and more. See schedule on website now.

DANCE

• **Arthur Murray Dance Studio** 99 Elm St., Manchester, 624-6857, [learntodancetoday.com](http://learntodancetoday.com)

• **Bliss Healing Arts Center LLC** 250 Commercial St. # 2007, 624-0080, [blisshealing.com](http://blisshealing.com)

• **Dance International Studio**

83 Hanover St., Manchester, 858-0162, [importers-exporters.com/DIS.htm](http://importers-exporters.com/DIS.htm)

• **Kathy Blake Dance Studios** 3 Northern Blvd. in Amherst, 673-3978, [kathyblakedancesstudios.com](http://kathyblakedancesstudios.com)

• **Krystal Ballroom Dance Studio** 352 S. Broadway, Salem, 870-9350, [krystalballroom.com](http://krystalballroom.com)

• **Let's Dance Studio** 5 North Main St., Concord, 228-2800, [letsdancenh.com](http://letsdancenh.com)

• **Mill-A-Round Dance Center** 250 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-3880, [millaround.com](http://millaround.com)

• **N-Step Dance Center** 2626 Brown Ave Manchester, 03103 603-641-6787 [nstepdance.com](http://nstepdance.com)

• **Paper Moon Dance Center** 515 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-1100, [papermoondance.com](http://papermoondance.com).

• **Queen City Ballroom** 21 Dow St., Manchester, 622-1500, [queencityballroomnh.com](http://queencityballroomnh.com)

• **Royal Palace Dance Studio** 167 Elm St., Manchester, 621-9119, [royalpalacedance.com](http://royalpalacedance.com)



# Kiddie Pool

## Family fun this weekend

### Stars and sky

• Watch high school students compete by answering questions about constellations, planets, stars and other objects projected in the planetarium at the **Astronomy Bowl** at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive, Concord, on Saturday, March 26, at 6 p.m. The top three winners in this statewide competition will receive silver commemorative "astronomy" bowls and scholarship prizes that can be used for higher education. Call 271-7827.

### Teen time

• Friday night is **teen night** at You're Fired Studios. Teens can paint pottery or create a mosaic for \$4 (half off). Studio locations include Bedford (641-FIRE); Concord (226-FIRE) and Salem (894-KILN). Visit [yourefirednh.com](http://yourefirednh.com).

### Homework help

• Every Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. there's free **homework help** at the Connection Center, 280 DW Hwy in Merrimack. See [www.connectioncenter.org](http://www.connectioncenter.org) or call 670-8504.

### Time for toddlers

• The Concord Public Library is offering **Toddler Tales** Friday, March 25, at 10 a.m. Through stories, finger plays, songs and activities, each toddler (age 2-3) and their adult will learn together. No groups. Registration is not required. Call 230-3682.

### Play time

• The **Koala bear playgroup** is a free drop-in playgroup Friday mornings 9:30-11 a.m. at Bedford Town Hall (10 Meetinghouse Road) open to children from infants to preschoolers along with older siblings, moms, dads, grandparents and nannies. Bring a snack for your child; snack time is scheduled for 10:15 a.m. (Please do not bring peanut butter products.) Call 472-5242.

• On Fridays and Saturdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. it's **open gym** at Flipz Gymnastics, 134 D Hall St., Concord. There are trampolines, rings, balance beams, tunnels, slides, an inflatable bounce house and more. Cost is \$5 per child. Call 224-3223 or visit [flipzgymnastics.com](http://flipzgymnastics.com).

### Visit the museum

• The Children's Museum

of New Hampshire is showing a **Black & White art exhibit** now through May. The show explores the expressive power of black and white through the works of six area artists. The exhibit can be viewed during regular business hours at the museum at 6 Washington St. in Dover, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. No admission fee is required to view the gallery only. Regular admission applies for families who wish to explore the rest of the museum. Call 742-2002.

### Fun music

• There's a **family concert** at the Pollard Memorial Library, 401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., on Saturday, March 26, at 10:30 a.m. The concert will include children's songs and singing games with Roger Ticknell. Children can sing, move, dance and play Latin and African percussion instruments while exploring other cultures with traditional, original and contemporary songs. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.pollard-mil.org](http://www.pollard-mil.org).

• **Senior Activity Center** 70 Temple St., Nashua, 889-6155  
• **Steppin' Out Dance Studio** 1201 Westford St., Lowell, 978-452-1111, [steppinoutdance-lowell.com](http://steppinoutdance-lowell.com)

### Belly Dance Classes

• **BOW COMMUNITY BUILDING** (2 Knox Road, Bow) on Thursdays 5:45-6:45 p.m. \$54 (\$49 for residents). Call Tracey at 225-3774.  
• **HOLISTIC SELF CARE CENTER** on Saturdays, noon-1 p.m. Four classes cost \$40, drop-in fee is \$12. Call 883-1490 and visit [thehssccenter.com](http://thehssccenter.com).  
• **PAPER MOON DANCE CENTER** (515 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-1100, [papermoondance.com](http://papermoondance.com)) on Mondays at 8:15 p.m., and Saturdays at 10 a.m. Cost is \$15 for drop-in, or \$45 for a month.  
• **STYLING SOULS** 832 Elm St., Manchester on Sundays at 6 p.m., cost is \$12 per class. Visit [www.stylingsouls.com](http://www.stylingsouls.com).

### Folk Classes and Dance

• **AFRICAN DANCE** and drumming workshop taught by Theo Martey on Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Murphy's Gym, 163 Lake Ave., Manchester. The Akwaaba Ensemble features West African drumming and dance. Cost is \$13; purchase a card for \$72 for six weeks. Drums provided if you don't have them. See [www.akwaabaensemble.com](http://www.akwaabaensemble.com).

com or call 224-5582.

• **BEGINNERS LINE DANCING** at the Circle 9 Ranch, 39 Windymer Drive, Epsom, Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Visit [www.circle9ranch.com](http://www.circle9ranch.com) or call 736-9656.

• **BORDER CITY SQUARES** offers square dance lessons every Mon., 7-9 p.m. First night is free. Dance is held at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 4 Watson St., Nashua. See [bordercitysquares.freesevers.com](http://bordercitysquares.freesevers.com) or call Cheryl at 438-2366.

• **COUPLES DANCE LESSONS** at the Circle 9 Ranch, 39 Windymer Drive, Epsom, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Visit [www.circle9ranch.com](http://www.circle9ranch.com) or call 736-9656.

• **GREEK FOLK DANCING** Sunday evenings at the St. George Greek Orthodox Community Center in Manchester. Open to everyone. Call 497-4581.

• **LINE DANCING** on Mondays at the Nashua Activity Center, beginners 4:45-5:45 p.m., improvers 7-8 p.m. Cost is \$50, runs for eight weeks.

• **LINE DANCING** on Wednesdays at Campbell High School (Highlander Way, Litchfield), 7-8 p.m., contact Campbell HS Community Program at 546-0300.

• **LINE DANCING** on Thursdays at the Windham Senior Center (2 North Lowell Road, Windham), 9:45-10:45 a.m., for 4 weeks. Call the Windham Rec. Dept. at 965-1208.

• **LINE DANCING** on Fridays at

Nashua YMCA, 7-8 p.m., call 882-2011.

• **LINE DANCING** on Mondays and Thursdays at the Nashua Sr. Center. Absolute Beginners-Beginners and Improver classes offered. Contact CJ at [nhgrizzlies@comcast.net](mailto:nhgrizzlies@comcast.net) for info, times and fee.

• **LINE DANCING LESSONS** at the Mill-a-Round Dance Center. Beginner, easy, intermediate, available on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. Cost is \$8. Visit [www.millaround.com](http://www.millaround.com) for specific dates and times.

• **RHYTHM LINE DANCING** at Royal Palace Dance Studio on Tuesdays 6:15-7 p.m. Visit [royalpalacedance.com](http://royalpalacedance.com) or call 621-9119.

• **SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING** on Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 215 Main St., Nashua (e-mail [nashuascd@comcast.net](mailto:nashuascd@comcast.net)); and second and fourth Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 69 Washington St., Keene (call Bill Schenck, 352-6968). Visit [rseds-boston.org](http://rseds-boston.org) for a complete list.

• **SQUARE DANCE FAMILY FUN NIGHTS** hosted by Heel & Toe Square Dance Club at the Cercle National Club, 550 Rockland Ave., Manchester. Weekly lessons available for a nominal charge through April. Couples, singles, and families are welcome. Call 497-3484 or 497-3414.

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Weekly Shares contain salad & cooking greens, herbs, bunched veggies, (radish, beets, carrots, etc.) and a variety of other seasonally available produce such as tomatoes, peppers, onions, shallots, garlic, eggplant, summer & winter squashes, potatoes, broccoli, sweet corn & much more.

Members can also purchase our naturally-raised grass-fed beef, pastured pork & poultry, eggs, maple syrup and extra veggies for home canning, freezing and storage. Share price is \$485/farm pick up or \$505/satellite pick up for the 16 week season. Prices subject to change.

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### Additional Confessions

Fri. March 11th - April 15th 5:30-7pm @ Sacred Heart  
Wed. March 16th - April 20th 5-6:30pm @ St. Maries

### Ste. Marie Parish

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For more info, please call Chris Paul at  
(603) 647-2597 or email [crpaul@comcast.net](mailto:crpaul@comcast.net)

065911

## Treasure hunt

An antiques expert helps you search for buried treasure

Dear Donna,

What can you tell me about this compact? I got it at a yard sale this past summer and have it on my dresser for decoration.

Cindi in Bedford

Dear Cindi,

What a sweet compact. Actually this is a hard one to find. This globe/world compact should have a maker's name on it of Pygmalion. It is an English company that was known for novelty compacts. Yours is a face powder compact, meant to hold only facial powder and not rouge or any other facial items.

It's from the 1930s or 1940s (compacts have been around since about 1900). The condition of yours appears to be excellent. It even looks like it's in its original bag — that's a plus and not easy to find.

The condition of compacts is tough to determine and can make or break their value. Because compacts were used so much, a lot of them have pieces missing. Also the powder and rouge, lipstick, perfume etc. can be used and have caused damage to the case.

When looking at any compact you want to make sure that it is not damaged and that the metal is clean. On yours, make sure all the gold-color metal is there and that the base metal/tin is not showing and there's no rust-



ing. Then make sure the inside is clean and the mirror is not broken or moisture damaged (clouding). Then look for the powder screen (which is to prevent the powder from all coming out at once). Last, check to see if the puff is there and in good condition.

After all this is considered you can determine a value. The rarity of it counts as well. Some are very common and easy to find and that makes them less valuable and some are considered rare. Your is a rarer one and in the condition it looks to be in I would say the value is somewhere in the \$100+ range to a collector. You found yourself a treasure.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown ([www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com](http://www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com)). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor, a licensed auctioneer and a member of the N.H. Antiques Dealers Association. To find out about your antique, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at [footwdw@aol.com](mailto:footwdw@aol.com). Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

### MUSEUMS & TOURS

- **Canterbury Shaker Village**  
288 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-9511, [shakers.org](http://shakers.org)
- **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**  
2 Institute Dr., Concord, [starhop.com](http://starhop.com), 271-7831
- **Currier Museum of Art**  
150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)
- **Laconia Historical & Museum Society**  
in the Laconia Public Library at 695 Main St. in Laconia, 527-1278, [laconiahistorical.org](http://laconiahistorical.org)
- **Langer Place**  
55 South Commercial St., Manchester, 626-4388, [langerplace.com](http://langerplace.com)
- **Lee Scouting Museum & Library**  
571 Holt Ave. in Manchester, 669-8919, [scoutingmuseum.org](http://scoutingmuseum.org)
- **Manchester City Hall**  
One City Hall Plaza, off Hanover St. in Manchester, 624-6455
- **Millyard Museum/Manchester Historic Association**  
200 Bedford St., 622-7531, [manchesterhistoric.org](http://manchesterhistoric.org)
- **New England Synthesizer Museum**  
6 Vernon St., Nashua, 881-8587, [synthmuseum.com](http://synthmuseum.com)
- **New Hampshire Aviation Museum**  
South Perimeter Road, Manchester, 669-4820, [nhahs.org](http://nhahs.org)
- **New Hampshire Snowmobile Association Museum**  
Beaver Brook State Park Museum Complex off Route 28, Allentown, 648-2304, [nhsnowmobilemuseum.com](http://nhsnowmobilemuseum.com)
- **Museum of N.H. Natural History**  
6 Eagle Square in Concord, 228-6688, [nhhistory.org](http://nhhistory.org)
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian**

### Museum

- 18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, [indianmuseum.org](http://indianmuseum.org)
- **Seacoast African American Cultural Center**  
135 Daniel St. in Portsmouth, 430-6027, [saacc-nh.org](http://saacc-nh.org)
- **SEE Science Center**  
200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, [see-sciencecenter.org](http://see-sciencecenter.org)
- **Speare Museum**  
5 Abbott St., Nashua, 883-0015, [nashuahistoricalociety.org](http://nashuahistoricalociety.org)
- **U.S. Marconi Museum**  
14 N. Amherst St. in Bedford, 472-8312, [marconi-usa.org](http://marconi-usa.org)

### Exhibits

- **NASHUA MANUFACTURING COMPANY** exhibit at Nashua Historical Society, 5 Abbott St., Nashua, on display through March, tells the story of the Nashua Manufacturing Company, chartered in 1823, a four-story textile factory that produced 1,900 yards of cotton cloth per day. By 1836, there were three mill buildings producing 8,000 yards of fine cotton cloth per day. Local farm girls as well as immigrants from Ireland, Canada, Armenia, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Russia worked in these mills. Visit [www.nashuahistoricalociety.org](http://www.nashuahistoricalociety.org).
- **BLACK AND WHITE EXHIBIT** Children's Museum of NH, 6 Washington St., Dover, now through May 15. Explores the expressive power of black and white through the works of six area artists, including Bill Paarlberg, Carolyn Vibbert, Bruce Iverson, Jill Snyder Wallace and Bill Baber. Can be viewed during regular business hours Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun., noon-5 p.m. No admission fee is required to view the gallery only. Regular admission applies for families who wish to explore the rest of the museum.

- **SOUTHEAST ASIA EXHIBIT** at Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough, [www.mariposamuseum.org](http://www.mariposamuseum.org). Free; donations gratefully accepted. Call 924-4555 or e-mail [info@mariposamuseum.org](mailto:info@mariposamuseum.org).

### NATURE & GARDENING

- **Amoskeag Fishways**  
6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-FISH, [amoskeagfishways.org](http://amoskeagfishways.org)
- **Beaver Brook Association**  
117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, [beaverbrook.org](http://beaverbrook.org)
- **Charmingfare Farm**  
Route 27, Candia, 483-5623, [visitthefarm.com](http://visitthefarm.com)
- **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**  
2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-STAR, [starhop.com](http://starhop.com)
- **Educational Farm at Joppa Hill**  
174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 472-4724, [theeducationalfarm.org](http://theeducationalfarm.org)
- **Friends of Stark Park**  
North River Road, Manchester, 645-6700, [friendsofstarkpark.org](http://friendsofstarkpark.org)
- **Londonderry Trailways**  
PO Box 389, Londonderry, [londonderrytrails.org](http://londonderrytrails.org)
- **Manchester Historic Association**  
129 Amherst St., 622-7531, [manchesterhistoric.org](http://manchesterhistoric.org)
- **Massabesic Audubon Center**  
26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, [nhudubon.org](http://nhudubon.org)
- **McLane Center**  
84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, [nhudubon.org](http://nhudubon.org)
- **Peabody Mill**  
Environmental Center 66 Brook Rd, Amherst, 673-1141, [pmec.org](http://pmec.org)
- **Seacoast Science Center**  
570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, [seacoastsciencecenter.org](http://seacoastsciencecenter.org)
- **Society for the Protection of NH Forests**



## LIVE FREE AND SHOP

# Fashion springs forward

Modern flares and boho chic abound

By Tori Loubier  
tloubier@hippopress.com

Warm weather is on the horizon and it's time to start dressing accordingly. And with a new season comes new trends.

The flared-leg jean: though I saw it on the runways and in the magazines, I wasn't sure how long, if ever, it would take to travel to our beloved Granite State. To my surprise, they've already been flying off the racks.

Lisa Gavin, owner of Alapage in Bedford, holds up the Angie Flare, a high-waisted, 1970s-inspired flare-leg by brand Citizens of Humanity. What's different now is that instead of the pant being baggy and loose-fitting, the leg is fitted until below the knee. The result is a modern version of a flare-leg jean and it's actually really great. Gavin informs me that they've already had to re-order this specific jean because it's been so popular. She refers to the style as "boho chic" and tells me it's trending big time right now.

What's interesting is that though the flare leg is resurfacing, the skinny jean is not going anywhere, according to Gavin. This is because skinny jeans (like jeggings) are a trend, not a fad. Gavin differentiates the two by how they evolve: "If a look can translate from a younger audience to a more mature one, it's a trend," she said, adding that skinny jeans have been widely accepted and celebrated by women of all ages.

The boho look includes flowy tops, beaded necklaces in earthy tones and floral prints. Alapage has a selection of all the above, including skinny floral belts that could dress up any outfit or be a great starter for someone looking to add floral to their closet but afraid to overdo it.

Gavin notes the prominence of bright "pop-sicle tones" that are gaining popularity. These include bright pinks, oranges, reds, blues and greens. Contrastingly, she notes that muted soft tones will continue to carry on from winter through spring. To incorporate bright spring colors in your wardrobe, Gavin advises to stay within your natural color palette.

"Put on your favorite lipstick or eye shad-



The boho look with flared-leg jeans and a flowy top is perfect for spring. Tori Loubier photo.

ow and try to match the shade with the color of your shirt. Be careful with oranges and blues," she said. Keeping bright colors in the same tones help to neutralize the standout shades.

As for jeans, the CJ Cookie Johnson brand is notable for pants made for curvy women, and Gavin notes that her mature customers love this brand for its stylish up-to-date looks but reasonable and age-appropriate fits.

Gavin also introduced me to the mini boot jean, a mix between the boot and straight leg. This jean helps create a straight silhouette down the leg, which turns out to be really slimming.

Another brightly colored addition to your spring wardrobe: lace bandeaus, in all colors that you can imagine. The bandeau is at first intimidating, but if you are looking to add color to your wardrobe this is a great transition. Pair a brightly colored bandeau under a loosely fitted neutral or classic colored tank and this look can be mastered by any age.

And, to finish it all off, wrap bracelets and wrap watches continue to stand out as popular accessories. Alapage sells brand La Mer.

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### CORRECTION

In the story "Going vintage" in the March 10 issue of the Hippo, a vintage item purchased at Concetta's Closet, 106 Main St., Newmarket, was misidentified in the story. The \$5 item purchased by the customer was a pair of purple leather gloves. Also, due to a typo, a sale attended by the store's owner was misidentified. The store owner attended a garage sale.

224-9945, spnhf.org

### Animals/insects/plants

• **BEE SCHOOL** at South Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St., Concord, Fridays, through April 15, 7-9 p.m. Learn how to keep bees in a fun and friendly environment. Families welcome. \$50 per person. Contact Barbara Lawler at beelady@blawlergroup.com or 774-2529

• **COASTAL BIRDING TRIP** Massabesic Audubon Center, 26 Audubon Way in Auburn, Wednesdays, April 20 and May 18, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Enjoy birding from the comfort of your car with JoAnn O'Shaughnessy. Meet at Hampton Beach State Park parking lot at 9 a.m. and carpool from there to coastal hot spots. Lunch is not provided, but the group will stop at a local restaurant to cap off the morning's adventure. Meet at 7:45 a.m. in the Massabesic Audubon

parking lot if you want to carpool with other participants to Hampton. Maximum of 24 people. Pre-registration required. \$9 per person. Call 668-2045 to register.

### Astronomy

• **PROBING THE MYSTERIES OF TITAN** McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive, Concord, Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m. Today, 365 years ago, Christian Huygens discovered Saturn's largest moon, Titan. The Huygens probe from NASA's Cassini mission parachuted down to the surface of haze-shrouded Titan six years ago, transmitting images and data that scientists are still working with today. Call 271-7827.

### Gardening/farming

• **ACCOMPLISHED GARDENER PROGRAM** Beaver Brook

Association, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis, now through May 13, Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Designed for environmentally concerned gardeners and homeowners. Focuses on locally grown good and soil. \$175. Register by calling 465-7787.

• **PRUNING WORKSHOP** Beaver Brook Maple Hill Farm, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis, Fri., March 25, 9 a.m.-noon. Includes a classroom component and a hands-on active outdoor component. Margaret Hagen will talk about pruning evergreen, deciduous trees and shrubs for the homeowner, as well as discuss appropriate types of tools for the job and the seasons and techniques recommended for many different species of plants. Bring any favorite hand clippers, hand saws you might like to try and work-gloves and dress for the weather. Call 465-7787.



## Hastening spring

By bulbs and blogs, days brighten



Forced Tete-a-tete daffodils. Henry Homeyer photo.

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

bloom as early as if they were growing 300 miles to our south, say Philadelphia. I will probably shovel some snow off that bed to speed up the process, but right now there are still snow banks 6 feet tall to climb over to get there. Sigh. I'm so ready for spring.

But I've done a few things to hasten spring — at least inside my house. Last fall I potted up daffodils and tulips and let them rest in a cold part of the basement. In mid-February I brought up the first containers of bulbs, and the daffodils are already blooming. In addition to some nice rectangular Italian terra cotta containers (14 x 6 inches, and 6 inches deep that contain a dozen bulbs), I planted up my big cedar window box that I made years ago (and described in a column). It holds 30 to 40 bulbs and will be a great display.

I've gone to three flower shows already (Providence, Hartford and Vermont) and can't leave any show without purchasing a few things in bloom. I bought blooming pots of crocus and Tete-a-Tete daffodils, those small ones that bloom early outdoors. At the Vermont Flower Show I got a new variety of a perennial that I grow, a foamflower (Tiarella cordifolia) called "Lace Carpet" that should bloom well in the shade and spread by root. I'll have to keep it indoors on a windowsill until the ground thaws.

If you buy a small pot of forced bulbs, think about displaying them somewhere unusual, not just on the dining room table. My favorite way to get a giggle is to place them poking out from a pair

of boots. It will cause you — and your friends and loved ones — to do a double take, and then pause to look more carefully. Other places might include in a crock pot or blender on a kitchen counter, or on the toothbrush holder in the bathroom. E-mail me pictures if you come up with something that pleases you (henry.homeyer@comcast.net). Blooming flowers help me get through the mud season.

Ten days ago I cut some forsythia stems, brought them inside, and placed them in a vase in a sunny window. They are now starting to bloom, even though sometimes it takes three weeks or more for forsythia to wake up and start blooming. The trick for a good forsythia arrangement is to cut stems that have plenty of fat buds and good long stems that will display nicely.

If the snow were not so deep, I would go get some pussy willow stems to force, too. Right now I would still need snowshoes to get to the wild pussywillows near the stream, and since I have other things blooming, I have not bothered to do so. You can wait until the pussywillows are already fuzzy, but doing so now is nicer — you can watch them wake up indoors. Once they look good, pour out the water in the vase and the pussywillows will not change — they will remain just as they are for months. If you leave them in water they will produce pollen and spill it on your tablecloth.

Apple and crabapple trees force nicely, too. March is traditionally the month for pruning apple trees, though it will be late March or April before the snows melt enough for me to get at my apple

trees, I think. When you do your pruning, be aware that blossoms form on fruit spurs that are 2 years old (or older). These are short stubby branches, 3 inches long or so, that generally are found on branches that are parallel to the ground, or up to a 45-degree angle to the vertical. Those straight-up, vertical branches generally do not produce flowers and fruit.

More than a year ago I asked you, my readers, if I should start a blog, or go on Facebook and Twitter. Most of you suggested a blog, but not to bother with the others. Slowly I have investigated the social media and have started a blog at your urging. To see it, go to <http://henryhomeyer.wordpress.com>. The publisher of my upcoming book, Bunker Hill Publishing, has urged me to tweet, and though I think it silly, you can now follow me on Twitter. Facebook? Not yet.

I like blogging. My weekly columns can only be 900 words, and I often have more to say. Blogging is good for that. And now that I have started seeds indoors and soon will be gardening outdoors, I hope to be able to pass on useful information on a daily or weekly basis that is not related to the weekly newspaper columns. I was a school teacher in the late sixties and early seventies, and I still enjoy teaching. Blogging is just one more way to do so. And sharing info about plants helps get me through the mud season.

Henry Homeyer's website is [www.Gardening-Guy.com](http://www.Gardening-Guy.com). Look for him on Twitter.

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## CAR TALK BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

# Is losing a wheel a common problem for CR-Vs?



Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a '97 Honda CR-V that has a persistent problem: The front wheels keep falling off. First the left front wheel fell off while turning left at an intersection. Then the right one fell off while traveling 50 mph on a state highway. Luckily, there was a cop behind me when it happened, and he flipped on his lights while I struggled to the shoulder. Finally, a few days ago, the left front wheel fell off again, while I was turning left to go out of my neighbor's driveway. My question is, Are Honda CR-Vs known for this sort of behavior? My various mechanics have claimed there's a design flaw that leaves the weight of the car resting on the low-

er ball joint at the wheels. Is this in fact the case, and have other CR-Vs dropped a wheel or two? — Jerome

RAY: Not that we know of, Jerome. Generally, there are two things that cause wheels to fall off: One, they're not put on correctly (the lug nuts are either not tightened, or they're overtightened, causing the wheel bolts to break), or two, the ball joints fail.

TOM: We're not aware of any defects or chronic problems with CR-V ball joints. In fact, we almost never replace them, and we've been seeing CR-Vs in the shop for well over a decade.

RAY: You don't say how many miles are on the car. And the fact is, any car's ball joints will wear out eventually. So if you've got 120,000 or 180,000 miles on this heap, then yes, it makes sense that a ball joint could break. But that's unlikely to happen twice on one wheel.

TOM: So I'm leaning more toward human error. Rather than ball joints, I'd look instead at the possibility that someone is overtightening your wheel nuts.

RAY: If the wheel nuts are severely overtightened, that stretches and weakens the wheel bolts, which are

then subject to failure. Even if only one bolt snaps, the pressure then increases on the others, because now there are four doing the job of five. And before long, another weak one gives out, and the rest fail more quickly.

TOM: The cars that are most susceptible to this are the cars on which the tires have been rotated frequently, over a long period of time. And where the mechanic overtightens the lug nuts time after time.

RAY: So have a mechanic you trust check your wheel bolts, and make sure they're not stripped or stretched. If they show any signs of unusual wear or weakness, replace all of the bolts and wheel nuts on all four wheels — because if someone overtightened one set, they probably overtightened all of them.

TOM: And obviously, until you know what's causing these failures, you'll want to have your front end carefully inspected on a regular basis so you catch any wear and tear before it becomes catastrophic. That's true for anybody with an older vehicle, but it's especially true for you, Jerome.

RAY: So repeat after me, Jerome: "Fill 'er up, check the oil and dou-

ble-check my lug nuts, wheel bolts and ball joints, please."

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have a question about something that happened to one of the vehicles our company uses. We have a 2005 Ford Explorer that is not used very much in the wintertime. When we tried to start it one cold morning, we thought the battery was weak, because it cranked but didn't start. We had our mechanic come out, but he found that it wasn't the battery. When he tried to start the car, he hit the gas and a chunk of ice shot out of the tailpipe. When he hit the gas again, another chunk flew out. He had no idea how so much condensation could have built up in the tailpipe area. What could have caused this? Thanks! — Kate

TOM: Sounds like you ordered the Explorer with the optional ice maker. But aren't those usually built into the door?

RAY: I don't think it's condensation, Kate. I can't imagine how you could build up enough condensation to freeze and fully block the tailpipe.

TOM: That's why the car wouldn't start, by the way. When

the ice blocked the exhaust from getting out, there was no room for fresh air and gasoline to come in. It was an arctic version of a potato in the tailpipe.

RAY: I think the water came in the same way it went out — through the tailpipe. How could this have happened? There are two likely scenarios. Scenario 1 is that someone backed into a snow bank.

TOM: Let's say you were parking the Explorer, and you backed into a pile of snow. That wouldn't be enough to stop a running engine, but it would have deposited a serious amount of water in the tailpipe — which would then freeze, preventing the car from starting.

RAY: Scenario 2 involves neighborhood kids who didn't get an Xbox for Christmas, and needed to find other ways to entertain themselves.

TOM: In either case, I think it's unlikely to happen again, Kate. But in case it does, keep some club soda and a twist of lime nearby.

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## TECHIE

# Camcorders endangered?

Many devices take pretty good video

By John Andrews  
jandrews@hippopress.com



It's not often I'll advocate against buying cheap things. Even when quality is a concern, one can often get by with something less expensive by honestly evaluating one's true needs and doing without the flashy extra features of premium products.

I'm starting to worry about the pocket camcorder market, though.

There's certainly no shortage of options, or price ranges. From last year's models under \$20 at closeout Web sites to bleeding-edge prosumer models for hundreds, you can spend just about any amount and have a dedicated video recorder in your hands.

Thing is, you probably already have one. Check your phone, or your digital camera.

It's almost impossible to sign up for a new mobile phone contract without getting a camera phone. Most of those camera phones also take (admittedly grainy, choppy) video. You won't be filming the next blockbuster, but it's perfectly adequate for capturing a hilarious arguing couple at the next table or the adorable cat you met on your walk. Its most important feature is that it's there, with you all the time, ready at a moment's notice when you didn't think you'd need a video camera.

Likewise, even the most basic digital camera now can take at least rudimentary, low-resolution video. The better camera you buy, the better video it tends to take; some support high definition and high definition, automatic re-focusing and zooming during filming. If you're in the market for a still camera, its video capabilities might not be

topmost in your mind, so they're almost a bonus you don't really notice until you get a chance to use them. If you do care about video, it's part of your purchase decision anyway. If you're choosing between two cameras, and the one with better video is only a touch more expensive, why would you buy a separate camcorder that costs as much as either camera in the first place?

There are certainly people who can use one. I have a Flip that takes surprisingly nice 720p video; my camera of choice is a DSLR that doesn't do video at all and my phone's camera is an insult to optics everywhere. Traditional SLRs, by their nature, can't record video, but more and more recent digital models have overcome that limitation, so were I buying now, I'd have a real choice.

Here's the thing though: I didn't buy my Flip. I won it in a contest. I'm not sure I would've paid money for it, as much as I like having it for free.

My DSLR with extra lenses and external flash is already much more bulky than a point-and-shoot camera, so adding the Flip to my bag is no big deal. It's nice to have a separate device, especially one that's so stupidly easy to use, rather than switching a dial on my camera when I want to take video; I can even hand it off to someone else. On one hand, it's a pain to have another battery to charge; on the other, it's nice that recording video doesn't eat up power that I need for still shots.

I'm probably splitting hairs over nothing. Tablets like the iPad, after all, filled the seemingly nonexistent space between smartphones and netbooks, but that category has had no problem taking off. Despite alternatives, single-purpose pocket camcorders will probably stay with us for a while.

\*Course, tablets take video too.

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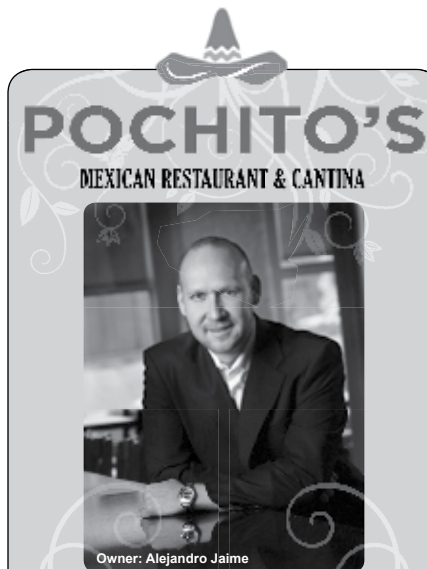
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## Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

• **New ownership, old recipes:** New Wa Toy, 611 Mast Road, Goffstown, 668-1088, [www.newwatoy.com](http://www.newwatoy.com), reopened in mid-February. The Asian restaurant has added sushi to its offerings and still offers dishes made with “the original recipes that made [the restaurant] so famous for years,” said bartender Cherie Larhette, adding that the original Mai Tai recipe has also returned. The eatery’s new hours are Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to midnight and Friday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

• **Good food, cheap beer:** Sunny’s Table, 11 Depot St., Concord, 225-8181, [www.sunnystable.com](http://www.sunnystable.com), is offering specials paired with Pabst Blue Ribbon. “We chose PBR because, one, I like to drink it, and because it’s still hip and cool,” said Sunny’s Table owner, Sun Chang. On Wednesdays Chang pairs the beer with curry (tofu, chicken or shrimp) for \$15. “With the spiciness and richness of the curry, [PBR] is the perfect beer for it ... and you look cool drinking it,” Chang said. On Thursdays the beer is paired with a bistro steak for \$20.

• **Copper Door construction:** Construction has begun at The Copper Door ([www.copperdoorrestaurant.com](http://www.copperdoorrestaurant.com)), the newest edition to the T-Bones and Cactus Jack’s family, on Route 101 in Bedford. The upscale eatery is slated to open at the end of the year.

• **Bittersweet closing:** After six years, Swan Chocolates, 436 DW Highway, Merrimack, 423-5950, [www.swanchocolates.com](http://www.swanchocolates.com), closed its Nashua store at the end of February. “We are as sad about this as anybody but the facility was no longer meeting our needs,” said Theresa Anderson, who owns Swan with her husband Michael. Anderson said visitors of the Nashua store have been offering suggestions for new locations, as she said she and her husband are “always looking” for new shop spot. “Knowing now exactly what we need for a facility allows us to make the right choice for our next move,” Anderson said.

• **Have a souper time:** Students from the A Walk in Their Shoes Group, Windham High School Art Club and the Alums of New Horizons for New Hampshire will host “Souper Bowls,” an all-you-can-eat soup event, at Windham High School, 664 London Bridge Road, Windham, on Friday, March 25, from 4 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$15 per person and \$30 per family and includes a handmade bowl. All proceeds will benefit New Horizons for New Hampshire.

• **Spring skiing and beer:** Red Hook Brewery, 1 Redhook Way, Portsmouth, 430-8600, [www.redhook.com](http://www.redhook.com), will celebrate its 30th birthday at Cannon Ski Mountain in Franconia on Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The day will feature a scavenger hunt, “Circa 1981” costume contest and beer garden. Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights and The Brew will perform. The event is free with the purchase of a lift ticket, \$10 without.

• **Buck a shuck:** Surf, 207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293, [www.surfseafood.com](http://www.surfseafood.com), will serve

Continued on page 55

## Getting hooked

Ignite owner opens seafood spot next door

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

On a recent Saturday night, the corner of Hanover and Chestnut streets in Manchester was packed with people waiting to dine at Ignite and at owner Neville Pereira’s newest restaurant — Hooked.

“It was such a good feeling,” Pereira said. “The buzz was on.” Pereira’s new eatery opened on Valentine’s Day and he said “the place has just taken off.”

A unique aspect of Hooked, whose walls are painted a vibrant goldenrod color, is its raw bar, manned nightly by — what else? — a raw bartender. “A raw bar is something Manchester doesn’t have,” Pereira said.

The ice-filled raw bar offers oysters, clams, shrimp and lobster cocktail, peppered mackerel, smoked rainbow trout, smoked pastrami salmon (rubbed with pastrami seasoning) and ahi yellow fin tuna. The restaurant also offers a “Sampler Plateau” filled with enough raw bar items to serve four to six guests. And the condiments go beyond the traditional cocktail sauce and mignonette: guests may also opt for sriracha, wasabi, horseradish, pickled ginger, ponzu, capers, onions, cilantro crema or lemon crème fraiche.

Calamari, tossed with cherry peppers and cayenne lime aioli, and Costa Rican fish tacos (three soft tacos filled with mahi mahi, pico de gallo, greens and creole tartar sauce) serve as the top-selling appetizers at Hooked, but starter options also include such dishes as sea conch fritters and Sicilian escargot.

“Everyone that goes to the islands eats conch fritters and, especially in the winter, we want to bring back those memories,” Pereira said.

While many chefs serve escargot en croute or sauteed in butter, Pereira said he decided to serve them Sicilian style to keep in line with his bold menu. The escargot at Hooked is served in a sauce of sun-dried tomatoes, garlic,

shallots, butter and wine and topped with provolone and asiago cheese.

While coming up with bold-flavored entrees, Pereira settled on many international-inspired dishes. The menu now boasts an Aegean Haddock Piccata, which is eight ounces of fresh haddock sauteed in a piccata sauce of butter, wine, capers, scallions and garlic, red bell peppers and sliced pepperoncini, and topped with feta cheese. “You can’t get more Greek than that,” Pereira said.

Other dishes with international flair are the Sukayaki shrimp (shrimp tossed in Japanese sweet and sour sauce), the blackened mahi mahi (blended with cajun spices) and the Tandoori salmon.

“Tandoori is a very strong Indian flavor but also a familiar one,” Pereira said. “The herbs make [the salmon] a bold color and the yogurt adds a nice tangy taste.”

Pereira noted his favorite entree as the Seafood Cioppino: sea scallops, tilapia, mussels and clams served in broth of tomatoes, white wine and Italian herbs and accompanied by crusty bread for dipping, all served in a bowl nearly eight inches deep that is filled three-fourths full.

“It’s a great dish if you have a good appetite,” Pereira said, adding that he chose the big bowls because they have a dip on the side to make it easier for customers to scoop and sip.

In addition to a full lobster — Pereira said now is the best time for lobster as the crustacean’s shells are harder and the meat sweeter — customers may opt for lobster macaroni and cheese or lobster ravioli with a champagne-cream-tarragon beurre blanc.

“In today’s market, lobster is an expensive commodity,” Pereira said. “Things like lobster macaroni and cheese and ravioli still give that effect to people ... they satisfy people’s lobster fix.”

To break the monotony of the all-seafood menu (all the salads are even topped with fish),



Neville Pereira opened Hooked on Valentine’s Day. Angel Roy photos.

Hooked offers Fins and Feathers, a combination of chicken and seafood, and a Surf and Turf, a filet served with seafood.

“Our menu is just a guideline, we’ll do anything — Fins and Fins, Feathers and Feathers, Turf and Turf — that sort of thing,” Pereira said. “We try to accommodate everybody.”

As he considers both Hooked and Ignite to be small restaurants (Hooked seats 44 but will be able to accommodate nearly double that number of guests when it adds outdoor seating this summer), Pereira said he has been very busy splitting his time between the two eateries.

“I’ve been having a lot of fun with it,” Pereira said. “My thing is that I want to meet all of my customers and if I can’t greet all of them, I will go to their tables and talk to them. I think a personal touch goes a long, long way.”

### Hooked

110 Hanover St., Manchester, 606-1235,  
[www.hookednh.com](http://www.hookednh.com)  
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## Italian in the QC

Pasta Villa: subs and pizzas from family recipes

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

Nicky DiMartino opened his 20th Italian eatery on Feb. 15, at 1111 Elm St., Manchester. His sold his last Queen City eatery, on Hanover Street, eight years ago.

“Perhaps this will be the last one,” DiMartino said. “I’m getting old.”

But retirement, DiMartino said, has proven not to be for him. “I’m one of those guys that has to stay busy,” he said. DiMartino got his start in the restaurant business after completing 40 years in the service. He worked as a manager at Papa Gino’s, then for Marriott hotels across the country before going into business on his own.

“I had never even thought about opening my own restaurant until after the service,” DiMartino said. The Pasta Villa menu features mainly subs and pizzas (both thick and thin crust) but also seafood.

“They’re all old family recipes, nothing fancy,” DiMartino said, adding that his son John

was leading the charge in the new kitchen as he has at all former Nicky D’s locations. DiMartino plans to add more Old World-style pasta and steak dishes to his offerings starting in April.

Gourmet pizzas have already been added to his menu, including one with shrimp, crab, red onion, capers and ricotta cheese and another with chicken, Grey Poupon mustard, onions and spinach. Guests may also choose to top their pies with white, marinara, meat or barbecue sauce or olive oil infused with garlic. DiMartino hopes to soon be making a couple hundred pizzas a day.

They key to making the perfect pizza, DiMartino said, is paying attention to the products. “You need to make sure the dough is fresh, cheese is fresh, vegetables are fresh and adhere to a proper cooking time,” DiMartino said. “The crust needs to be golden.”

DiMartino said he is often asked what his favorite menu item is but he has never been able to pick just one.

“Sometimes I just like a plain burger, other

times I want some seafood,” he said. “There is nothing on there I wouldn’t eat myself.”

DiMartino said the best part of owning a restaurant is seeing it all come together, transforming what was an empty room into a relaxed atmosphere where his customers can feel “a bit of the Old World.”

During 17 months of construction, DiMartino removed every square inch of carpet, tile and plywood from the floor, revealing hardwood floors that are more than 100 years old. The walls were removed to expose the brick, which has been brushed and cleaned. The restaurant now seats 86 people between the dining room and lounge but DiMartino said he could squeeze in up to 108. He is constructing a function room in the back of the restaurant that will

### Nicky D’s Pasta Villa

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Hours: Sunday through Wednesday, 11 a.m.- 9 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.- 10 p.m.



## FOOD

open next year.

"I love this spot," DiMartino said of his new space. "It's still in the immediate downtown area and I think will enhance this particular block. Now you have Bridge Café on the end, Mint Bistro for fine dining, McGarvey's for pub-style food on the other end — Nicky D's

is more of a cheap eats type of place." For now, DiMartino has only hung paper signs on the window advertising his new eatery, but he has plans for more prominent signage. He has hired 10 employees and expects to increase his staff to 25 when the function room is complete.

## Greek in Derry

Amphora: food like a Greek mom used to make

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

Filling his menu with family recipes, some of which he put his own twist on, Pete Tsoupelis opened Amphora, a Greek eatery, at the Shaw's plaza in Derry.

Tsoupelis had worked in the restaurant field on and off since the age of 13 and held a desk job in Boston after college graduation. Realizing that he did not enjoy the office lifestyle, Tsoupelis opted to return to the food industry and has been working at restaurants in Boston ever since. Tired of commuting to work from the Granite State, Tsoupelis decided to venture out on his own and serve the traditional Greek cuisine he grew up with.

For entrees, Tsoupelis uses his mother's recipe for his Psari-sto-filo, fresh haddock topped with creamy mushroom sauce and folded into filo pastry, and a traditional recipe for his Mousaka, a Mediterranean casserole with layers of eggplant and seasoned meat sauce topped with bechamel.

He makes his Saganaki a little differently, though; it is traditionally known as a chunk of cheese coated in Parmesan, but Tsoupelis instead uses a chunk of Kasseri, a hard goat milk's cheese that he describes as a cross between mozzarella and parmesan, and serves it in a cast-iron skillet.

Chicken Avgolemino Soup, a zesty chicken soup blended with lemon sauce, and a lettuce-less salad, Horiati, are also among the appetizer offerings at Amphora. "In Greece, people don't eat much lettuce," Tsoupelis said of the salad made with only cucumbers, tomatoes, onions, roasted red peppers, solonika peppers, artichokes and olives.

Nightly dinner specials usually include dishes with a Greek flair such as lamb ribs with Metaxa fig glaze and au gratin potatoes, Tsoupelis said. The children's menu offers a Greek macaroni & cheese made with bechamel, feta and Kasseri cheeses. Feta can be added to seasoned french fries at Amphora.

"That's something we all had as kids," Tsoupelis said of the feta fries. "A [childhood] friend said 'If you don't have that on your menu, you're crazy, that's the best thing in the world.'"

Among Tsoupelis' own creations are the ouzo cake and baklava cheesecake, kept in a bakery case for all to see. "Everything is made in-house," Tsoupelis said.

Traditional Greek desserts also in the case are kourambethes (almond shortbread cookies) and galaktoboureka (custard pie) and baklava.

"The trick to making good baklava is how the filo is handled — there are a lot of idiosyncrasies to it," Tsoupelis said. "Working with filo is definitely a challenge. It dries out in minutes, so you've got to make it really fast as well."

Many of the products at Amphora that are not made in-house are imported from Greece, Tsoupelis said. Also for sale in the bak-



Baklava cheesecake and baklava from Amphora in Derry. Angel Roy photos

ery case is Manouri, a sweet, buttery Greek cheese, and Taramosalata, a Greek-style caviar spread.

Greek wine and Mythos beer serve as unique pairing elements at Amphora. "I think it complements the food and is just one thing people are not exposed to a lot," Tsoupelis said.

On the wine list is an Argyros Canava Santorini, a white wine made with grapes grown in Santo, Greece, which Tsoupelis said is a very volcanic island. "[The wine] has such a mineral flavor, it is almost effervescent.... It's not a chardonnay, it's different, more robust," Tsoupelis said.

Tsoupelis noted one of his favorite red wines on the list is the Cambas Nemea Reserve, a dry wine that he said is "fruity without being sweet."

"Any red wine fan will appreciate that to a high degree," he said, adding that hints of vanilla can also be found in the wine.

Wine relates to the name of the restaurant — an amphora is a two-handled vase that was used for carrying wine, olive oil and water in ancient Greece. "It is an important item historically," Tsoupelis said.

Tsoupelis' restaurant, which he compared to the size of the walk-in cooler of his father's Greek restaurant, Symeon's, in upstate New York, seats 44 guests, but there will be room for more when he adds outdoor seating this summer. Tsoupelis said he signed a short lease on his current space so as to have more options for the future.

"I knew I needed to start small," he said. "I didn't know what Derry was going to think of Greek food."

### Amphora

55 Crystal Ave., Derry, 537-0111, [www.amphoranh.com](http://www.amphoranh.com)

Hours: Monday through Thursday 11:30 a.m.- 9 p.m., Friday through Saturday 11:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m., Sunday noon- 9 p.m.



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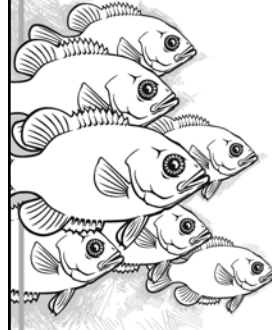
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# Contoocook condiment

Blackwater Mustard aims for world contest

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

When asked if he had any French's yellow mustard tucked away in his fridge, Steve Cybulski laughed.

"No, thank you," he said.

Instead, Cybulski adds flavor to his meals and dresses his sandwiches with Blackwater Mustard, a hot and sweet condiment he makes and distributes from his Contoocook farm. Cybulski began making the mustard, following a family recipe, with his son two years ago to give as gifts to friends and family.

"Then someone said I should probably start marketing this stuff because they thought it was pretty good," he said.

Cybulski registered his business with the state and he now produces 24 eight-ounce jars per batch to sell at local stores, fairs and farmers markets. He has 400 pounds of mustard bottled and ready to go.

"A lot of places just send their mustard out and have it manufactured industrially and just throw a label on it. Mine is done by hand," Cybulski said gesturing to the two long wooden tables he uses as his workspace.

Cybulski only produces one variety of mustard — the hot and sweet kind.

"A lot of people ask, 'What do you use? Wasabi? Horseradish?'" Cybulski said. "It's not either; [the heat] comes from the way the mustard is ground."

Sugar is used for the mustard's sweet component. Cybulski said he used to add honey but it took too much edge off the condiment's heat. He said he has been told that the more



Blackwater Hot and Sweet Mustard is made at a farm in Contoocook. Angel Roy photo.

processed the mustard flour is, the more volatile oils are released, resulting in hotter flavor — "I'm not an expert on it, but that is what I was told," he said. Cybulski uses what he called a "three-fourths strength" mustard flour, which he buys already ground.

"I couldn't grow enough for myself," he said. "I would need acres and acres of it."

One ingredient Cybulski does not have to order is eggs, which he gets from another Contoocook farm.

"It's the best I can do [to buy local]," he said. "As far as my other supplies go ... no one in Merrimack County sells what I need."

Cybulski recommends that people use his mustard not only as a sandwich spread but also as a dip for pretzels and apples. Adding a few tablespoons to any soup or stew, he said, helps round out the flavor. The mustard also makes a great salmon glaze, he said.

And while Cybulski is in talks with the Barley House in Concord to develop a mustard recipe to pair with one of the eatery's beers of the month, he is not yet ready to add new varieties to his offerings.

"Everybody wants something different — Americans are used to five to six different flavor options — I kind of like [my business] because I make one thing well," Cybulski said. "I suppose, eventually, I'm going to have to expand. I'm not sure."

One thing that is expanding for Cybulski, though, is his customer base as his son has shown interest in selling his product in Colorado and a friend is already peddling his mustard in Minnesota. Cybulski hopes to draw widespread attention to his product in March by entering the World-Wide Mustard Competition through the Mustard Hall of Fame.

"It's pretty exciting for the world of mustard, and for me," he said.

## What the heck is chutney?

Ask Bow architect Tom Wilson

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

As an architect, Tom Wilson found it difficult to go into a meeting of 20 people and convince them he was the best architect. He thought it would be just as difficult for him to sell his chutney, but he was wrong.

"I love going into stores and saying 'Hi, I'm Tom Wilson from the Chutney House,'" Wilson said. "I just really enjoy it, selling chutney."

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## FOOD



Chutney House chutneys. Angel Roy photo.

he said. Unfortunately for Wilson, his mother's recipe got lost over the years, so he was forced to develop his own.

"We are close to the original recipe," Wilson said of his Chutney House green tomato chutney. Wilson also makes rhubarb — which he said makes a great substitute for apple-sauce on pork roasts — plum lemon, peach apple and cran-apple chutney.

Wilson has been lugging his product to local markets and butcher shops, allowing their owners to sample the chutneys, and the ones who love it put it on their shelves, leaving customers to ask "What in the world is chutney?," Wilson said.

"I grew up with it, in a sense, and thought everybody knew what chutney was," Wilson said. "What I am finding is that people don't know what it is, or how to use it."

Wilson compared chutney to wine in that, as different wines are best paired with different foods, different chutneys are best paired with certain dishes. "It's a matter of developing your own taste," he added. "Some might prefer using the plum lemon on pork rather than on fish."

Chutney can also be served with crackers, cheese or wine or as a dip, he said.

Wilson spends five to seven hours preparing each batch of chutney. One batch, he said,

fills 50 to 70 eight-ounce jars. Before putting a batch on the stove, Wilson takes two and a half hours preparing the ingredients — cutting the tomatoes (Wilson said he uses green tomatoes instead of red because they stay more solid in the blend), Granny Smith apples and onions, and measuring out the apple cider vinegar, brown sugar and spices like cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and cumin. The spices and vinegar are brought to a simmer and then the mixture is boiled when the fruit and tomatoes are added. The cooking process takes an additional two hours.

During the first week of February, Wilson started developing his own piccalilli recipe, which only takes about 15 minutes to prepare, to add to his offerings. His sweet, hot, spicy piccalilli is made with green tomatoes, red and green peppers, onions and seasonings, but he said he is still working on his recipe and is considering adding jalapeños for heat.

As piccalilli is used differently than chutney, a local butcher shop owned suggested that Wilson's product would be good on a hot dog or hamburger.

Wilson hand-bottles and labels both the chutney and piccalilli with labels he designed himself.

"I may not have gone into it if I had someone else designing the labels. That way wouldn't have been any fun," he said.

### Chutney House

224-1839, [www.chutneyhouse.com](http://www.chutneyhouse.com)  
Chutney House chutney is available at Moulton's Market in Amherst; Mobil in Bow; Agway, Cole Garden, Concord Cooperative Market, Concord Meat and Seafood and River Hill Market in Concord; Nature's Country Store in Epsom; Agway in Hooksett; Mr. Steer Meats in Londonderry; A Market Natural Foods and The Wine Studio in Manchester.

## Limoncello by hand

Salem man makes a business of it

By Angel Roy  
[aroy@hippopress.com](mailto:aroy@hippopress.com)

Fabrizia is a town about 30 miles from where Phil Mastroianni's family hails from in Italy. The origin of the town's name means "one who works with his hands" and, keeping true with his family's heritage, Mastroianni is doing just that at his limoncello company, as each lemon is peeled by hand.

Mastroianni and a college friend began making their own limoncello for fun in the fall of 2007 when Mastroianni returned from visiting family in Italy. During his visit, he had tried limoncello made with lemons grown on his family's property.

"I didn't come home with the recipe but came home wanting to make it," Mastroianni says. Naturally, the digestivo was a hit with his all-Italian family in Newton, Mass., throughout the holidays.

Mastroianni opened Fabrizia Limoncello in Salem nearly three years ago after receiving a memorable compliment from his uncle, who he recalls said, "Phil, this is the best limoncello I've ever had. This is what you should be doing."

"I said 'Uncle Joe, this is a hobby, I have a day job so I can do these types of things,'"

Mastroianni says. Soon he got to thinking, with gas at that time reaching \$4 a gallon and the euro continuing to hold more value than the dollar, that it must cost a lot of money to get limoncello to America.

Recipe in hand, Mastroianni began researching how to get his own limoncello business off the ground.

"I'd just turned 25 at the time and had no money, no investors, no personal savings to fund the business with," he said. "We were young kids just out of college."

He and his college pal, Brett, first thought to start their business in Massachusetts until they learned they would face an annual licensing fee of \$10,000. The pair then turned to Rhode Island, where Brett lived, where the licensing fee was less, but the young entrepreneurs were unable to find the right spot to start their business.

Then they looked to the north and met with the landlord of a building on Industrial Way in Salem, where the company is now housed.

"We knew right off the bat it was a perfect place to start the business," Mastroianni said, adding that the criteria that need to be met to start a business in the Granite State are "very clear and reasonable." The company is now a

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## FOOD

state and federally licensed rectifier, as it purchases the alcohol (190-proof) already made. It is also standard procedure in Italy to procure grain alcohol from an outside source, Mastroianni said.

While the business was being formally established, both Mastroianni and Brett worked as public accountants. Brett decided that even though the business was moving in the right direction, he was going to stick with his career. Mastroianni left his position to focus on passing the state's test market, during which he had six months to sell 1,300 bottles of Fabrizia Limoncello at 40 of the largest liquor stores in New Hampshire. As the quota was made, the liqueur is now sold at 60 of the state's 79 stores. It is now also offered at more than 10 Granite State restaurants. Sales associate Amber McGann said it is her goal to have the limoncello offered at 200 restaurants in New Hampshire this year.

A palette piled high with boxes waits in the office for shipping to Ohio — Mastroianni has been working to expand his distribution beyond New England. He hopes to extend his sales to Pennsylvania and Illinois by the end of the year. The limoncello is slated to be offered in Maryland this month.

It takes 1,800 lemons to make 800 bottles of limoncello, Mastroianni said, adding the he gets his lemons from California eight months a year and from Chile during the other four. The lemons are peeled by hand (Mastroianni has "peeling parties" once a month) and stored in five-gallon containers filled with grain alcohol. Each container is labeled with the date the lemons were peeled and given a number, one through five, to represent the quality of the lemon used.

"Sometimes they are very ripe, sometimes they are the best we have ever seen and sometimes they are just not there yet," Mastroianni said. To offset the difference in lemon quality, the batches of infused alcohol are blended together into the batch to "guarantee a great taste."

### Locally, Fabrizia Limoncello is served at

Balliwick's Fine Restaurant in Littleton  
The Common Man in Ashland and Windham  
Giorgio's Trattoria in Merrimack  
Hooked Seafood in Manchester  
Ignite Bar & Grille in Manchester  
Tuscan Kitchen in Salem  
XO on Elm in Manchester



Fabrizia Limoncello is made in Salem and sold at 60 of the 79 state liquor stores. Angel Roy photo.

After two months, the lemon rinds are removed from the alcohol before it is poured into a 200-gallon tank. Homemade simple syrup is then added to the tank, which ends up filling to 160 gallons, 50 of which are infused alcohol. The lemon residue is then skimmed from the top of the batch, which Mastroianni said is "unfortunate because it has the best flavor."

"But when our consumers see that at the store they think it is a floaty or that it's dirty, they don't know what it is," he said, adding that many imported brands use frosted glass bottles to hide the natural residue.

After a batch is brought to 150 degrees (any higher and the sugar would burn), it is left for a few days to cool to room temperature, then pumped into a bottling machine that can fill only four 750-milliliter glass bottles at a time. Mastroianni's younger brother Nick has stepped up to be his right-hand man during production.

"Us Italians like keeping it in the family," he said. Often viewed only as a chilled after-dinner drink, limoncello can be used in many other applications, McGann said. It can be used as a substitute for water in boxed cake mixes, or added to frostings, savory lemony dishes or waffles — the alcohol bakes off. It can also be added to margaritas and used in Cosmopolitan martinis if regular vodka is used instead of citrus.

As he is thankful to the Granite State for supporting his product, Mastroianni has been trying to return the favor by sponsoring the Manchester Choral Society. In June, he will donate \$5 for every bottle sold to Home for Troops, an organization that helps veterans find stable housing. Last year he raised \$2,000 for the cause.

## One day a year—all-day beer

A view of St. Patrick's Day from Murphy's Taproom

By Angel Roy  
aroy@hippopress.com

A group of four men sat at the bar of Murphy's Taproom in Manchester shortly before 6 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day, each one with his eye on the clock. At the five-minute mark, bartender Kara Brady's customers began a countdown, alerting her of every passing minute.

"Are you guys wicked excited?" Brady asked as she held the glass under the Guinness tap at 6 a.m.. "Here we go."

More than 25 customers, including a table of eight, filled the bar and dining room before 6 a.m., eating full plates from the Taproom's all-you-can-eat Irish breakfast buffet. Later in

the day, the Taproom would switch it to all-you-can-eat Irish lunch and dinner buffet of corned beef and cabbage, shepherd's pie and bangers and mash.

Revelers who manage to stay standing at the Taproom from 5:30 a.m. to last call get more than a next-morning hangover — they get their name and picture on a plaque.

Although he opted to replace his picture on the plaque with that of a pint of Guinness, Marty Sullivan, of Manchester, is one who met the challenge. Sullivan takes both St. Patrick's Day and the following day off from work every year. As he usually wakes up for work around 5 a.m., waking up for a full day of celebration was easily done. Last year Sul-



## FOOD



At left, bartender Kara Brady pours the first Guinness at 6 a.m. on St. Patrick's Day at Murphy's Taproom. Greg Clauson of Manchester has his first beer of the day. Angel Roy photo.

livan held his own at the Taproom until his ride came to pick him up at 12:30 a.m. He usually makes it through the final half hour.

Sullivan was the recipient of this year's first pour of Guinness. "Everyone here knows me pretty good and they all know I like Guinness — I've always liked Guinness — it's not that big of a deal, they could serve it to anyone else and it would be fine by me," Sullivan said.

Sullivan called this year's 6 a.m. crowd "mellow" and noted that at noon things at the Taproom get a little crazier. From 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., "when every normal working person that didn't manage to get the day off" comes out, Sullivan said, the Taproom completely fills up. "You can't walk through the place without bumping into somebody, but usually it's somebody you know, so it's no big deal," he said.

It was the first early morning St. Pat's Day celebration at the Taproom for Manchester roommates Matt White, Greg Clauson and Nick Perry. The green-wearing trio took over a hi-top table in the corner of the bar at 5:15 a.m. Each had a coffee and a green beer in hand by 6 a.m.

"I just want my name on the plaque and to drink green beer" Clauson said. Clauson took the day off from work. The holiday fell during the vacations of White and Perry. "It's the only day of the year when it is OK to be at the bar this early," White said.

The pals said their secret to making it through the day would be water, coffee, energy drinks and pacing themselves on the beer.

"Our reasoning is that five years from now, we can say we sat at a bar for 20 hours on St. Patrick's Day," Perry said.

## Weekly Dish

continued from page 50

oysters on the half shell for \$1 during dinner on Wednesday, March 30.

- **Martinis and meze:** Giorgio's Ristorante & Meze Bar, 524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939, [www.giorgios.com](http://www.giorgios.com), will hold a four-course meze dinner, paired with martinis, for \$35 on Wednesday, March 30, at 6 p.m. Reservations are required.

- **Hold a beer for the hurlers:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, [www.thebarleyhouse.com](http://www.thebarleyhouse.com), will host a season kickoff party for its hurling team, The Barley House Wolves, on Friday, April 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. The event will feature light appetizers and live Irish music, as well as an attempt to set a record for holding a full pint of beer at the end of a hurley (the wooden stick used in hurling). Proceeds will help pay for the team's trip to the national hurling championships in San Francisco.

- **All-you-can-eat baseball grub:** Every fan at the New Hampshire Fisher Cats game against the Trenton Thunder on Saturday, April 9, at 1:35 p.m. will receive free hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and nachos during the game. Tickets cost \$10 and \$12 and can be purchased in advance or on game day.

- **Taste of the Nation:** Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation Manchester will be held at the Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm St., Manchester, on Wednesday, April 20, from 6 to 9 p.m. Participating restaurants include Bedford Village Inn, The Black Water Grill, BML Catering, Butter's Fine Food and Wine, Cactus Jack's, Celery Sticks

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- **Visit with the vintners:** LaBelle Winery, 100 Chestnut Hill Road, Amherst, 828-2923, [www.labellewinerynh.com](http://www.labellewinerynh.com), will host open houses on Saturday, April 30, from noon to 2:30 p.m. and from 2:30 to 5 p.m., and on Saturday, June 11, from noon to 2:30 p.m. and from 2:30 to 5 p.m. Registration is required.

- **Get a taste of downtown:** The Taste of Downtown Nashua will be held on Wednesday, June 1. Tickets for the event are slated to cost between \$25 and \$30. Participating restaurants have not yet been announced. Visit [www.downtownnashua.org](http://www.downtownnashua.org).

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## DRINK

### Corkscrews

Is one type better than another?

By Paulette Eschrich  
food@hippopress.com

At one of the first in-home wine tastings I conducted, the hostess asked if I could include comments on how to use a corkscrew to open a bottle of wine. Initially I found that an odd request, but given the range of corkscrews and other tools designed to withdraw a cork (real cork or some other composition) from a bottle of wine, I realized that many wine consumers find the task of opening a bottle as frustrating as the selection of a wine. Who hasn't had a cork crumble or struggled to dislodge a plastic closure? After breaking three corkscrews, a friend of mine resorted to an electric drill and strainer!

By the early 1700s the shape and size of wine bottles had evolved to roughly the proportions in use today, thus permitting the standardization of cork closures. The initial challenge of cork removal was addressed in one of two ways. If part of the cork extended from the neck, it could be grasped and tugged out. In his book *To Cork or Not to Cork: Tradition, Romance, Science and the Battle for the Wine Bottle*, George M. Taber quotes an anonymous poem from 1732: "Sir Roger set his teeth to work/This way and that he ply'd/And wrench'd in vain from side to side." Ultimately, Sir Roger burned the cork, shoved the remainder inside and got his thumb stuck in the neck. The second method was to slice the bottle below the bottom of the inserted cork, also a risky procedure.

The first device created specifically to remove corks from wine bottles was patented in England in 1795. Today the most common corkscrews include a metal spiral, often called a worm after a similar tool used for cleaning the barrel of a gun, and some form of handle. Alternate designs include two flexible, flat prongs with a handle, and variations of a thin needle that can pierce the cork and force it out by pumping air into the bottle. A simple stroll through the kitchen wares section of your favorite store will reveal the continuing quest to market the perfect cork extractor.

I have three favorites among the variety of corkscrews that I have acquired. The Screwpull, which has many imitators, was created by Herbert Allen in 1979. I recommend this product because it has two distinct advantages: (1) the very long metal worm is Teflon-coated, making it more effective with plastic or composite corks, and (2) a plastic frame (like a large clothes pin) fits over the neck of the bottle and keeps the worm centered on the cork. The Screwpull comes in a standard and a travel model, the latter folding into a more compact size. I know a few overly zealous users who have broken the plastic versions, but for a budding oenophile, I still think it is the easiest corkscrew to master.

Sommeliers and restaurant staff favor a "Pulltap" or waiter's corkscrew. Designed in Germany in 1882, Karl Wienke added a knife-like handle to a simple corkscrew which can be used as a lever against the lip

of the bottle. I recommend the ones that are hinged or articulated with two steps, providing better leverage on longer corks. This model requires the user to appropriately position the tip of the worm in the center of the cork and to manually insert the spiral, a skill that may require practice. Mark Oldman in *Oldman's Guide to Outsmarting Wine* advises the user to "choke the lever" or wrap one hand around the neck of the bottle so your hand covers the lever as the cork comes out, keeping it from slipping and facilitating a smooth extraction. The compact corkscrew slides easily into a pocket, picnic basket, or glove box. Newer versions copy the Teflon coating pioneered by Screwpull. One version of this style, a Boomerang, incorporates a foil cutter in the handle.

The third type of corkscrew, the one with two flat, flexible prongs, is called an Ah So or butler's friend. It is the preferred tool for those who wish to preserve the cork without puncturing it. It also is useful with dried, crumbly corks and can be used to reinsert the cork into the bottle. Anecdotally, the butler's friend implies that a cork can be removed, the wine "sampled" and the bottle topped with inferior wine without the master's knowledge. With practice, the user can gently guide the prongs (whether Teflon-coated or not) between the glass and the cork, and then with a steady twist guide the cork upward and out. I find it tricky to master and only employ it when absolutely necessary.

Some corkscrews have a short knife blade for the removal of the foil — either the entire cap or by cutting below the neck's grooved lip. I like to use a foil cutter (there are several different designs) because it gives a clean consistent edge. If the cork is capped with wax, I usually insert the corkscrew through the wax, which might cause it to crack or crumble.

And finally, what to do with a crumbly, dry cork? Aside from attempting removal with the Ah So, experts vary in their advice. If there is a sufficient fragment remaining in the neck, I try to gingerly reinsert the worm at an angle and keep the cork in contact with the bottle to keep it securely on the worm during extraction. Others recommend just pushing the cork down into the bottle. In either scenario, some cork will end up in the wine. Cheesecloth, a paper coffee filter or a fine mesh screen should take care of errant bits of cork.

For trivia buffs: a cork collector is called a placomusophile. Actually the term originally applied to collectors of the wire cages and discs from champagne corks, but contemporary collectors have appropriated the term. For those who have embraced living "green" there are several programs aimed at recycling natural corks: ReCORK by Amorim, Yemm & Hart Green Materials, and Cork ReHarvest.

Paulette Eschrich is a dedicated oenophile and former wine retailer who conducts custom in-home wine tastings. She leads a monthly wine book club and hosts wine events at WineNot Boutique in Nashua.



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## DRINK

### Red, white and green A lot of wine, a little cash

Here and there, you can almost convince yourself that spring is indeed on its way. Since we saw a few rays of sun this week, we decided to throw a white in the mix.

And, in honor of the state store sales on wines from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, we stuck with down under wines for another week. For a white, we tried the **2009 Tohu Sauvignon Blanc** from Marlborough, New Zealand (\$12.99). This sunny wine is pale gold in color and has fragrances of pear and grapefruit on the nose. That bright grapefruit aroma, along with a hint of lemon and tart green apple, followed through in the flavor. This wine was a bright delight after so many weeks of heavy reds. It was clean-tasting and went well with our dinner of chicken tenders and onion rings, cutting the fat and adding balance.

For a red, we also had a light wine — the **2008 Yalumba Shiraz Viognier** from South Australia (on sale for \$11.99). This wine is 92 percent shiraz (a red) and 8 percent viognier (a white which you'll occasionally see on its own but more frequently see in white blends). This wine made us think



of light, bright berries — the fragrance is of light strawberries and light cherries. Those characteristics followed through in the flavors but with a finish that almost vanishes in your mouth. This would be good on the rocks, the

serious wine-lover among us half-joked. This wine is so reminiscent of a rosé that on the rocks or at least chilled might be a good way to serve this wine in the heat of the summer. We guessed that something not too big in flavor fresh off the grill — shrimp? white fish? — might be a good pairing for this, as might turkey.

*Each week in "Red, White & Green," two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated. In this cold weather season, we're throwing in a few more reds and cutting back on the whites, which are often served chilled and therefore a little less inviting when you're bundling up against the lower temperatures.*

#### Drink Listings

##### Breweries/Distilleries/Cider

- **ANHEUSER-BUSCH** 221 DW Hwy, Merrimack. Complimentary tours include a visit to the Clydesdale Hamlet, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 595-1202.
- **FARNUM HILL CIDERS** 98 Poverty Lane, Lebanon, 448-1511, www.farnumhillciders.com
- **ELM CITY BREWING COMPANY** Colony Mill Marketplace, 222 West St., Keene, 355-3335, www.elmcitybrewing.com. Restaurant, brewery and pub, open Mon.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **REDHOOK BREWERY** 35 Corporate Drive, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, www.redhook.com, produces Redhook ales and features the Cataqua Public House offering brews and a pub menu. Tours offered Monday and Tuesday at 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at noon, 1, 3 and 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday every hour on the hour from noon to 4 p.m.; Sunday every hour on the hour from 1 to 4 p.m. For private tours, call 430-8600 ext. 327.
- **SMUTTYNOSE** 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, smuttynose.com, 436-4026. Free tours to the public Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 11 a.m.
- **TUCKERMAN BREWING COMPANY** 64 Hobbs St., Conway, 447-5400, www.tuckerman-brewing.com, offers tours every Saturday at 3 p.m.

wine and soda at IncrediBREW, 112 DW Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com. Shop features fest-nights that focus on making a particular kind of beer.

- **VINTNER'S CELLAR CUSTOM WINERY — BEDFORD** Vintner's Cellar at Sebbs Brook Marketplace, 410 South River Road, Route 3 in Bedford, offers a chance to taste and create custom wines. Call 627-9463 or go to www.vintnerscellarnh.com.
- **VINTNER'S CELLAR WINERY — CONCORD** 133 Loudon Road, allows customers to make custom wines in batches of 24 to 28 bottles.
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##### Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

- **SIX-WEEK WINE COURSE** WineNot Boutique, 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenot-boutique.com, will hold a six-week course on "Premium Wines of the World" starting on Sat., April 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. with "Wines of Austria, Germany and Alsace region of France." During each class, students will taste six or seven wines from around the world and learn about regional wine styles within each country. Classes cost \$35 and \$40 each, or \$210 for all six.
- **WINE SOCIETY** (650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) offers classes for

wine-lovers of all levels. New sessions start every few months. Call for upcoming schedule.

##### Weekly/monthly tastings

- **BUTTER'S** Weekly wine-tastings at Butter's Fine Food and Wine, 70 N. Main St., Concord, 225-5995, Thursdays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Some tastings are held Fridays as well.
- **THE DRINK SHOPPE** 214 Central St., Hudson, 578-1130, www.thedrinkshoppe.net, holds a free beer and steak tasting Fridays from 4 to 6 p.m.
- **FRIDAY NIGHT FLIGHTS** Enjoy weekly wine tastings — Friday Night Flights — at several area state liquor stores where Reidel stemware will be for sale for \$3.99 per glass for the tasting. Tastings will run from 4 to 6 p.m. at Capitol Shopping Center, 80 Storrs St. in Concord; 417 S. Broadway in Salem; Market Basket Plaza, Route 125 in Plaistow, and Merrimack Village Center, 6 Dobson Way in Merrimack. Tastings will run from 5 to 7 p.m. at North Side Plaza, 31 Hamel Drive in Manchester; Bedford Grove Plaza, 5 Colby Court in Bedford, and 27 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua.
- **SIDEWAYS TASTING** WineNot, 70 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, will hold a "sideways" wine tasting on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. The tastings will present wines from an individual distributor to be tasted side by side.
- **WINE SOCIETY** (18 Pondview Place in Tyngsboro, Mass., 978-649-8993; 650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us). Membership in the Society costs \$30 and includes discounts on wines and Society events, which include weekly and monthly wine tastings, wine and food pairings and classes on wine varietals.



# POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS,  
GAMES, COMICS,  
MOVIES, DVDS,  
TV AND MORE



## Playlist

*A seriously abridged  
compendium of recent  
and future CD releases*

• **Britney Spears** is coming out with a new album! This new masterpiece of modern art, out on Tuesday, is called “Femme Fatale,” but you’ve probably heard the first single, a euro-trance joint called “Till the World Ends” while you and your “girls” danced the Hokey Pokey at the Elks club or wherever you “par-tay.” It’s not a bad song at all, reminiscent of what’s been going on in progressive trance over the past few years, but the problem is the Autotune-hiccup chorus singing, which makes it sound like Ke\$ha accidentally made a good song. This is the direct result of Britney’s using Dr. Luke as the producer again, but who cares, are we going to see her shave her head like GI Jane again and talk about how awesome George W. Bush is? Didn’t she just rule back then?

• If the guys at Roadrunner Records would stop being jerks and just send me albums instead of still being sore at me for my fight with their idiot promo guy in 2004, maybe I wouldn’t have to say that I predict that *The Unforgiving*, the new album from their symphonic-metal band **Within Temptation**, will be so overwrought and silly that it’ll actually make people miss Evanescence, if you can believe it. But they still aren’t talking to me, whatever, so I will instead urge people who want to hear girl-rock to buy the last Zombina & The Skeletones album.

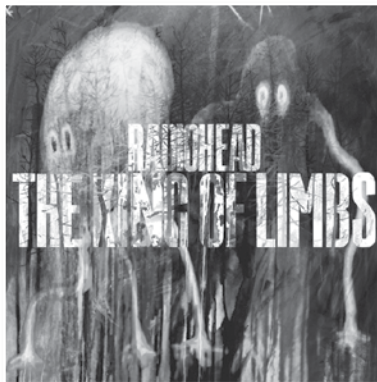
• If there’s one TV show I can’t stand, it’s *NCIS*. Reasons: 1, no one has ever seen Mark Harmon and Doug Flutie in the same room, and (B), Mark Harmon must look like Frankenstein in real life, because he’s the only male TV star who demands to have Vaseline all over the camera lens during every one of his scenes. But what to my wondering eyes should appear but a new CD, *NCIS: The Official TV Score*, due out Tuesday, and like me, you’re thinking, is the Internet trying to punk me, is it for real? Yes, and it includes the old chestnut “Double-O DiNozzo,” which probably refers to some stupid character on that stupid show, and it’s such cheesy horrible music that I automatically went to the kitchen to make a horrible cheese sandwich when I heard it just now.

• **Los Lonely Boys** release their seventh album, *Rockpan-go*, next week. No one really buys Los Lonely Boys albums, be real, but I mention it because they claim that their music is “Texican,” which kind of makes you wonder, doesn’t it, but then you stop wondering and realize that “Texican” probably doesn’t really mean what you’d expect, like “an ingenious hybrid of mariachi and Merle Haggard,” and then you hear the new song “Fly Away,” which sounds like Toby Keith trying to be Grateful Dead backgrounding a car commercial, and then you immediately vomit. —Eric W. Saeger

## POP CULTURE:

## CDS

Radiohead, *The King of Limbs*  
TBD Records, March 29



*Computer* and whatnot. Past all that, though, and as much as it would please skinny-jean wonks to say it, Radiohead aren’t a bunch of dummies, thus this LP goes beyond the notion of “we’ll show Animal Collective a thing or three” into the territory of “well I’ll be damned, Yorke actually listens to Aphex Twin and enjoys it.” But what does that really mean, aside from ensuring that a few ridiculously burnt-out critics punctuate their snark with knowing smiles? My inner pragmatist recognizes that Radiohead has great taste in ambient techno, and admits they’ve hereby mopped the floor with Animal Collective, but must insist that this is seriously not the reinvention of the G clef (nor of Radiohead; “Codex” is from the same old pit of eye-rolling mournful slowbie-slug nonsense in which they traditionally wallow). **B-** —Eric W. Saeger

Grails, *Deep Politics*  
Temporary Residence Records, March 8



part it’s recognizable stuff, subtle prog-rock with a blues slant, their more-than-adequate drummer making a world of difference over bands like Pelican, who, like Grails, have no singer at all. This lot are in a tough situation, though, too cool to be pegged as hick throwbacks and too progressive for ringtones, and so they’re making their own way, being thrown on tours opening for Boris (who are much louder) and Silver Apples (way more ’60s-ish). If you’re into penny stocks, there’s actual potential here for a next-gen blues-based arena-rock rebirth here, free of all the despicable Guitar World posturing of the past. **A-** —Eric W. Saeger

Most times it’s infuriating when old-fogey bands hawk new albums, ripping off what they’ve been led to believe are the “hot new sounds” of the minute, going way back to when Rolling Stones decided they needed to stop everything and become the Bee Gees. In this case, however, Radiohead have gone the extra mile, reaching that rare point where they’re ripping off bands whose core vibe was actually stolen from their own, this all subject to whether or not you believe Animal Collective’s mainframe-blooming fractal-techno (if you’re old, we’re essentially talking about stuff that sounds like Pink Floyd’s “On the Run”) was inspired by Radiohead’s own *OK*

If I may recommend this album to a particular demographic, it would behoove older dudes in bands to check this out, at least to see what can still be accomplished with the corpse of blues rock. See, everyone has an older coworker or dad or whatnot who stares achingly at his Les Paul Sunburst while waxing nostalgic about Pat Travers, 38 Special, Rick Derringer, or any other dust-grimed post-Zeppelin also-ran from when dinosaurs ruled the hockey arenas. With a bare smattering of electro and no singer, Grails points to the exact spot on the musical map older dudes should explore, where the subtlest hint of hipster irreverence makes all the difference. For the most

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers’ workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Lisa Parsons at [lparkers@hippopress.com](mailto:lparkers@hippopress.com). To get your author events, library events and more listed, send information to [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

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## POP CULTURE:

## POP

# Imagine a retro future

Nashua hosts steampunk convention



The Wandering Legion of the Thomas Tew. Picture Courtesy of The Lady of Graves, J.M. Coen

By Adam Coughlin  
acoughlin@hippopress.com

The future is about to arrive in Nashua, as seen through the eyes of the Victorian era.

Steampunk is a sub-genre of science fiction and speculative history in which participants look at what people in the past, usually the Victoria era, would have thought of the future, according to Lucretia Dearfour, a member of The Wandering Legion of the Thomas Tew, a steampunk performance group. Just as people today imagine hover cars and trips to the moon, people who enjoy steampunk travel back in time before they look ahead.

"It is retro-futuristic," Dearfour said.

The name "steampunk" was coined by science fiction writer K.W. Jeter in a letter to a science fiction magazine in 1987.

Dearfour said those heavily involved in steampunk read the authors of the Victorian era (the reign of Queen Victoria, 1837 to 1901), like Jules Verne and Mary Shelley. They research Victorian clothing, customs and language, with the hope of better understanding what people living then might have thought of the future.

"It is an alternate history with 1,001 possibilities," said Lisa Sussenberger, who is helping to organize the first-ever all-steampunk convention in New England, to be held in Nashua, Friday, March 25, through Sunday, March 27.

This means you could see anything from medieval weapons to ray guns. In the steampunk literature, steam engines are still very much a part of the future world. Steampunk exists in all areas of popular culture — music, books and movies, like *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* and *Wild Wild West*.

Dearfour, who has been into steampunk for three to four years, said for many who get involved there is at first an aha! moment in which they realize they have already enjoyed the movies, literature and music that are part of steampunk. Dearfour said personally he finds steampunk is one of the only hip subcultures that puts out a completely positive attitude.

"I used to be goth," Dearfour said. "But goth, and to some extent emo, are coming from a place of sadness. While that can be true in steampunk, for the most part it is about extreme optimism."

Which is why members of the community, which Dearfour said is growing but has yet to reach its apex, are encouraging to other people who might not know a great deal about steampunk.

Hence Steampunk Industrial Revolution. This three-day fan convention will allow those who know a great deal about steampunk to interact with people who might be hearing about it for the first time in a friend-

ly atmosphere. Dearfour said there is a debate within the community about how much to reveal about steampunk because of the fear it will become too popular and lose its appeal. But he said those involved in Steampunk Industrial Revolution are not judgmental.

So people can show up wearing a T-shirt but it would be more appropriate to don a top hat, tails and perhaps a fake weapon. Dressing up is very appealing to those who are involved in steampunk. Costumes can be elaborate and fantastical and will be shown off at the formal ball held during the conference. Dearfour also said there would be a short scene festival, in which steampunk theater would be performed, and a Queen of Steampunk pageant for any transgender attendees or people who do not conform to standard rules of gender.

"The event will appeal to people who love steampunk but also to anyone who is just curious," Sussenberger said. "The costumes alone are worth seeing."

Sussenberger previously organized Another Anime Convention, which is also a fan-driven event. The Wandering Legion of the Thomas Tew, which formed about a year ago, performed at that event. Sussenberger asked them if they thought there was a large enough steampunk community to hold an entire convention. Dearfour and others said there was and agreed to help out.

Typically, those active in steampunk meet up all over New England in less formal settings. Dearfour said fans of anime may meet at a convention or a comic store, while steampunks go to museums or historical places and try to bring their vibe with them. Dearfour said the Charles River Museum has become a huge hangout spot.

### Steampunk Industrial Revolution

**When:** Doors open at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 25, and close Sunday, March 27, at 5 p.m.

**Where:** Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 888-1551

**Tickets:** Three-day pass costs \$40, two-day pass costs \$35, Saturday only costs \$30, Friday or Sunday only costs \$25.

**Info:** Visit [www.steamrevolution.com](http://www.steamrevolution.com)



## BOOK &amp; LECTURE LISTINGS

## Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**  
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Public Library**  
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**  
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net
- **Derry Public Library**  
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us
- **Goffstown Public Library**  
2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
- **Hollis Social Library**  
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**  
1701B Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**  
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**  
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**  
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org
- **Rodgers Memorial Library**  
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**  
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**  
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**  
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

## Bookstores

- **Barnes & Noble**  
1741 South Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557; 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961; bn.com
- **Borders**  
76 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 224-1255; 281 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-9300; borders.com
- **Double Midnight Comics & Collectibles**  
245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636, dmcomics.com
- **Gibson's Bookstore**  
27 South Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com
- **MainStreet Bookends**  
16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com
- **River Run Books**  
20 Congress St., Portsmouth, 431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com
- **Toadstool Bookshop**  
586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734, toadbooks.com.

## Other

- **Manchester Historic Association**  
200 Bedford St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
- **New Hampshire Humanities Council**  
19 Pillsbury St., Concord, 224-4071, www.nhhc.org
- **New Hampshire State Library**  
20 Park St., Concord, www.nh.gov/nhsl
- **New Hampshire Writers' Project**  
SNHU, 2521 N. River Rd.,

## In the spotlight



## Islam 101

“A Short Course on Islam for Non-Muslims” will be presented by Charles A. Kennedy on Tuesday, March 29, at 7 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library at 49 Nashua St. in Milford, with an outline of Islamic beliefs and practices and a discussion of the major similarities and differences among Islam, Christianity and Judaism. Dr. Kennedy, professor emeritus of religion from Virginia Polytechnic Institute, currently serves on the board of the New Hampshire Council of Churches and has written and published extensively in the field of religious studies. This program is funded by a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council and is free and open to all. To guarantee a spot, pre-register at the library's website. Call 673-2408 or e-mail [refdesk@wadleighlibrary.org](mailto:refdesk@wadleighlibrary.org).

Manchester, 314-7980, nhwritersproject.org

- **Rivier College**  
420 Main St., Nashua, 888-1311, rivier.edu.
- **UNH Manchester**  
400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu

## Author events

- **SARAH VOWELL** will talk about her new book, *Unfamiliar Fishes*, on Thurs., March 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord, hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. This will be a ticketed event; tickets are free with purchase of the book at Gibson's, or \$6 without the book, to help pay for the use of the theater. Book sales will also benefit Red River.
- **JENNIFER VAUGHN** will talk about her debut novel, *Last Flight Out*, on Sun., March 27, at 1 p.m. at Manchester B&N.
- **WRITERS ON A NEW ENGLAND STAGE** presents authors interviewed on stage by a New Hampshire Public Radio host at The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Joyce Carol Oates on Mon., March 28, at 7:30 p.m. Ann Patchett on Fri., June 10. Ben Mezrich on Thurs., July 21. Tickets cost \$13 per event. Buy in person at 28 Chestnut St., by phone at 433-3100 or at [www.themusichall.org](http://www.themusichall.org).
- **CAITLIN SHETTERLY** will talk about her new book, *Made for You and Me: Going West, Going Broke, Finding Home*, on Thurs., March 31, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.
- **JEREMY ROBINSON** will talk about his latest novel, *Threshold*, on Fri., April 1, at 7 p.m. at Manchester Barnes & Noble.
- **STEWART O'NAN** will talk about his new book, *Emily, Alone*, a sequel to the bestselling *Wish You Were Here*, on Sun., April 3, at 2 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.
- **JODI PICOULT** discusses *Sing You Home* on Wed., April 6, at 7 p.m. in the Spotlight Café in the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com), as part of the Writers in the Spotlight series hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. General admission; tickets cost \$6; order online, by phone, or in person at the box office or Gibson's.
- **2010-11 UNH WRITERS SERIES** hosted by the UNH English Dept. in the Memorial Union Building at UNH Durham continues with Darcy Frey reading from *The Last Shot: City Streets, Bas-*

*ketball Dreams* on Thurs., April 7, at 5 p.m. All Writers Series events are free and open to the public. See [www.unh.edu/English](http://www.unh.edu/English) or call 862-1313.

- **TOM WESSELS** will talk about his new book, *Forest Forensics* — a field guide and companion volume to his *Reading the Forested Landscape* — on Thurs., April 7, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore. Wessels is also the author of *The Granite Landscape* and *The Myth of Progress*.
- **JOHN CLAYTON** author of *Remembering Manchester* and *You Know You're in New Hampshire When* will talk about tales from his books on Thurs., April 14, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Manchester City Library auditorium. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served and copies of Clayton's books will be for sale.
- **ANDRE DUBUS III** will talk about his new memoir, *Townie*, on Thurs., April 14, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.
- **VIRGINIA EUBANKS** will talk about her new memoir, *Digital Dead End: Fighting for Social Justice in the Information Age*, on Mon., April 18, at 5:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore.
- **GARRISON KEILLOR** will be at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Wed., May 4, at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$40, \$65 and \$100. Call 668-5588 or go to [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org).
- **JAMES KLOPPENBERG** author of *Reading Obama: Dreams, Hope, and the American Political Tradition*, will talk about his book on Thurs., May 12, at 7 p.m. in the theater of Nashua Public Library.
- **KATHERINE PATERSON** will be in NH on Tues., May 17, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, as part of the NH Humanities Council's "Connections" literary program. The event is free and open to the public but advance registration is suggested ([nhhc.org](http://nhhc.org)). Paterson is a two-time winner of the Newbery Medal, for *Bridge to Terabithia* and *Jacob Have I Loved*, and the National Book Award, for *The Master Puppeteer* and *The Great Gilly Hopkins*. She is one of only four Americans to with the Hans Christian Andersen Medal, an international honor that recognizes an author's lifetime achievements. Her most recent novel, *The Day of the Pelican*, tells the story of a refugee family from Kosovo.

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## POP CULTURE:

### Lectures and discussions

• **TIME TRAVEL: BACK TO THE FUTURE** series of events at Amherst Town Library concludes with "Lafayette and the Farewell Tour: The American Idol," on Tues., March 29, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. These events are free and open to the public. Register online or by calling or visiting the library.

• **THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR: 1861-1865** free seminar presented on Sat., April 2, 9 a.m.-noon at the American College of History and Legal Studies at 1 Stiles Road in Salem. Members of the public are welcome to attend; RSVP by March 30 by calling 458-5145 x.13 or e-mailing [info@achls.org](mailto:info@achls.org). Space is limited. The free seminar will be led by Pro-

fessor Michael B. Chesson, founding professor and dean of ACHLS and a former professor of history at UMass-Boston. Visit [www.achls.org](http://www.achls.org).

• **EDUCATION: WHAT WILL MATTER TOMORROW?** with guest speaker Mohit Mukherjee, founder and director of the University for Peace Centre for Executive Education in Costa Rica, on Fri., April 8, 7-8:30 p.m. at Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst St., Nashua. Open to the public and free, but donations (\$10 suggested) are welcome and will help NCC students attend UPEACE in Costa Rica this summer.

• **AFTER IRAQ** is a lecture series at UNH Manchester focusing on U.S. foreign policy and moral dilemmas in the new Middle East. The series

is conducted by the World Affairs Council of NH in partnership with UNH Manchester. Events are held Tuesday evenings, 6-7:30 p.m., in the third-floor auditorium at UNHM, free and open to the public. April 12: "Who are the Kurds?" presented by Qubad Talabani, U.S. representative of the Kurdish Regional Government of Iraq since 2006. Visit [wacnh.org](http://wacnh.org) or call 314-7970 for info on the series.

• **THE FUTURE OF POWER** presented by former assistant secretary of defense Joseph Nye on Mon., April 25, at Walker Auditorium at SNHU in Manchester. Cocktail reception at 6 p.m., program at 7 p.m. Tickets \$50; purchase at [www.wacnh.org](http://www.wacnh.org) or 314-7970.

## The Book Report

• **Local writer writes book:** M. J. Holmes of Merrimack has published *Tyme and Yon Serpent*, a fantasy novel he wrote based on a plot written for a role-playing game. According to a press release, it involves "strangely assorted characters in their pursuits to save the post-cataclysmic world of Bu'Kre'Knunkt." Then there's stuff about a shadow government, a protectorate, an ancient weapon and some divine intervention. Also a Quest. Find it at [lulu.com](http://lulu.com).

• **Local writer writes book:** RM Allen of New Hampshire has published *The*

*New Hampshire Goddess Chronicles, vol. 1: Light Your Torch*, chronicling a woman's "spiritual safari" in the Merrimack Valley. "If you are a woman looking to reinvent yourself, you should give this fun and informative book a try," says the press release. See [www.nhgoddess.com](http://www.nhgoddess.com). Allen will be at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter on Tuesday, April 5, at 7 p.m.

• **Concord Borders still spared:** On March 17 Borders announced the closing of an additional 28 stores as part of its reorganization, but none are in New Hampshire. The only Borders in New Hampshire that will be closing is the one in Nashua.

—Lisa Parsons

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# FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ



Paul

## Paul (PG-13)

**Two British besties on a nerd road trip pick up a fugitive alien of the green-skin variety in *Paul*, an absolutely A-dorable, cute-as-a-button send-up of sci-fi-geek culture.**

Graeme Willy (Simon Pegg) and Clive Gollings (Nick Frost) love all things sci-fi. Clive even won an award for his own sci-fi story a few years back, but now hasn't quite finished his book, the main drawing power of which seems to be the three-boobed alien woman on the front. But they are having a delightful time meeting more successful sci-fi authors, buying assorted memorabilia and hanging out with the assembled Wookies and Princess Leahs at the Comic-Con in San Diego. And, after the movies and the video games, there's still more fun to be had. The pair, on a long-planned vacation, rent an RV and head out on a road trip of The-Truth-Is-Out-There-ish

hot spots: Area 51, Roswell, etc.

The trip isn't all tea and crumpets — Graeme and Clive run into a fair amount of dust-covered yokels who aren't sure if the pair are uber-nerds or a couple but want to beat them up either way. And then there's the night that a car crashes in front of them, tumbling off the road. As they stop to see if anyone's been hurt, they see the car's sole occupant, Paul, uninjured and lighting a cigarette. To his shame for the rest of the movie, Clive faints and wets himself because Paul (voice of Seth Rogen) is a big-headed, big-eyed, green-skinned alien.

Paul explains that he learned that the government is preparing to end his stay on Earth with a genuine alien autopsy and decided to escape from his classified hide-out. Graeme and Clive agree to take him to an unspecified destination, where he hopes to get a ride home. But, of course, the government isn't so keen on this plan and soon Man in Black-type Agent Zoil (Jason Bateman) and witless

FBI agents Haggard (Bill Hader) and O'Reilly (Joe Lo Truglio) are on the trail of Paul and company. And that's not all — as Graeme and Clive are forced to make mad dashes through the cowboy-ish West, they inadvertently make other enemies, including Moses Buggs (John Carroll Lynch), an RV park operator and the fundamentalist Christian father of Ruth Buggs (Kristen Wiig), a woman Graeme and Clive accidentally kidnap.

Cross this setup with the sensibilities that made *Hall Pass*, to pick on a recent example of bone-headed dude humor, and you have something unwatchable — bigness and meanness all over the place. But *Paul* is — and maybe this isn't exactly what its makers would want to hear — the sweetest, most charming comedy I've seen in a while. It loves its nerd characters with its whole, Spock-ears-wearing heart. It loves aliens and sci-fi and the goofiness of the genre. It pokes fun at *E.T.* and *Star Wars* (a character shooting his police-radio and saying "Boring conversation anyway" might actually be my favorite thing in movies so far in 2011) in a way that also celebrates these things and their fans. It is never cruel, never homophobic or misogynist as buddy comedies like this can sometimes be.

At first this much cuteness felt like it was going to turn the movie to mush, that we'd have all softness, no humor. But I laughed out loud plenty, found myself enjoying the movie immensely and liked not just the ridiculously loveable Graeme and Clive but also Ruth — yes please, more Wiig. And even

Seth Rogen, doing very Seth Rogen goofy-potthead shtick, worked for me here. This is the rare high-concept comedy that improves as its story unfolds and had me so delighted at the end part of me actually wanted to see it again.

And for someone in the middle of a six-hour movie marathon, that's saying something.

Pegg and Frost have a special chemistry, one that is different than the dude-buddies of Judd Apatow movies or the guys in extreme-wackiness movies like *The Hangover* but just as much fun — more, really. The characters here really care about each other and, while they can recognize the somewhat childish nature of their obsessions, they also have a certain maturity. It's refreshing to see Frost and Pegg together here, giving a new flavor of goofiness, and it reminded me of why I liked them so much in *Shaun of the Dead* and *Hot Fuzz*.

*Paul* is a buttercream-frosted cupcake to the lovers of light sabers and Cigarette Smoking Man. **B+**

*Rated R for language including sexual reference and some drug use. Directed by Greg Mottola and written by Nick Frost and Simon Pegg, Paul is an hour and 44 minutes long and distributed in wide release by Universal Pictures.*

## Limitless (PG-13)

**A schlubby writer becomes a high-achieving financial wiz thanks to a potentially dangerous drug in *Limitless*, a movie that is stronger in the premise than in the payoff.**

Eddie Morra (Bradley Cooper) is a messy, long-haired loaf who is trying and failing to make headway on the book he's writing. His girlfriend Lindy (Abbie Cornish) finally decides all this sad-sack-ery is too much and leaves him. Even more down in the dumps, Eddie shlumps around New York and runs into Vernon (Johnny Whitworth), his former brother-in-law (marriage being yet another thing Eddie has failed at). Vernon was once a standard street-drug dealer but has moved on to selling a translucent pill that looks a bit like a shirt button but promises extraordinary things. He gives one to Eddie, who is reluctant at first but decides, what with his total patheticness, why not?

The drug works quickly and with astonishing power. Suddenly Eddie can remember odd facts and bits of information he read years earlier. In the course of hours, he's able to successfully hit on a girl, clean up his apartment and start work on his book. The burst of mental clarity and ability to complete tasks is as addictive as any high and soon he's heading back to Vernon for more. Their meeting doesn't go quite as planned, but in the end Eddie has a massive supply of NZT, this miracle drug that brings out the best, most high-achieving you and lets it run free.

Soon, Eddie is finishing his book, getting a haircut and better wardrobe, schmoozing his way into friendships with rich people and learning enough about the stock market to make some fast money day-trading. Of course, if you start with \$100, even doubling your

## Reviewlets: Snack-sized movie reviews

\* Indicates a movie worth seeking out. Previously reviewed movies have grades. For full reviews of most movies here or movies previously released, go to [www.hippopress.com](http://www.hippopress.com).

### *\*The Adjustment Bureau* (PG-13)

Matt Damon, Emily Blunt. A man running for Senate gets an accidental peek behind the scenes of the everyday life of the fedora-wearing men who control all of human fate, which apparently does not want him to date Emily Blunt. **B**

*\*Battle: Los Angeles* (PG-13) Aaron Eckhart, Bridget Moynahan. Aliens attack and Michelle Rodriguez, one-woman Air Force badass, fights back. **B-**

### *Beastly* (PG-13)

Vanessa Hudgens, Alex Pettyfer. The "Beauty and the Beast" story is told from the point of view of the "beast" — a handsome but stuck-up jerkface given horrible deformities by a lesson-teaching witch. **F**

### *\*Cedar Rapids* (R)

Ed Helms, Anne Heche. An insurance salesman from small-town Wisconsin heads to big-city (Cedar Rapids) Iowa for a conference full of sex, drunkenness and general debauchery. **B+**

### *Diary of a Wimpy Kid:*

*Rodrick Rules* (PG) Zachary Gordon, Steve Zahn. The further adventures of Greg Heffley, this time with emphasis on his older brother

Rodrick. Opens wide on Friday, March 25.

### *Gnomeo & Juliet* (G)

Voices of Emily Blunt, Maggie Smith. Shakespeare's classic love story is told with garden gnomes. **C-**

### *Hall Pass* (R)

Owen Wilson, Jason Sudeikis. It's a Farrelly Brothers movie! Two married schlubs get a one-week "hall pass" from marriage — i.e. all the ill-considered hook-ups they can handle, consequence-free. Of course, for this to work, women will have to want to hook up with them. Jenna Fischer and Christina Applegate also star. **C**

### *\*The King's Speech* (R)

Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush. Excellent performances — Firth, Rush and Helena Bonham Carter as the Queen Mum — make for great fun in this historical biopic. **A**

### *Mars Needs Moms* (PG)

Joan Cusack, Dan Fogler. Needing moms, Mars takes one from Earth and her young son tags along to try to rescue her in this strange animated tale. Somewhere, a women's studies class reads an examination of this movie's very strange commentary on gender. **C**

### *\*Rabbit Hole* (R)

Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart. A well-told, very well-acted tale of a couple in the aftermath of the death of their

young son. **A-**

### *Rango* (PG)

Voices of Johnny Depp and Abigail Breslin. Remember those commercials for the animated movie with the lizard during the Super Bowl? This is that movie — a Western featuring the voice of Johnny Depp as Rango, a pet chameleon who suddenly finds himself in the wild. **C**

### *\*Red Riding Hood* (PG-13)

Amanda Seyfried, Lukas Haas. Catherine Hardwicke — director of a little movie called *Twilight* — revamps (sorry) this tale of wolves and outerwear. **B-**

### *Sucker Punch* (PG-13)

Emily Browning, Abbie Cornish. Zack Snyder brings us stylized fighting girls who want to escape from the asylum where they're held prisoner. Opens on Friday, March 24.

### *Take Me Home Tonight* (R)

Topher Grace, Anna Faris. The *That '70s Show* kid stars in this '80s-set movie about a college grad coming home and reuniting with his high school friends. **C-**

### *Unknown* (PG-13)

Liam Neeson, January Jones. A man awakes after a car accident with no evidence that he is who he says he is — not even his wife seems to know him. **C+**





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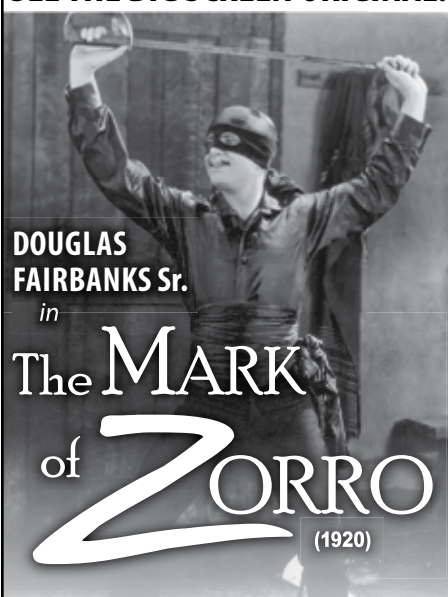
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## POP CULTURE:

## FILM Continued

money in one day doesn't get you very far very fast. So Eddie makes the decision to get a line of credit — a line of credit with a violent Eastern European mobster. Gen-nady (Andrew Howard) is only happy to hand over money with the understanding that he will break and stab many things on Eddie if Eddie isn't prompt with paying him back. Equally dangerous is the friendship Eddie strikes up with Carl Van Loon (Robert De Niro), a sort of terrifying Warren Buffet who picks the rapidly evolving brain of Eddie for merger advice.

Of course all this gain is likely to have some pain. As Eddie uses more and more of the medicine, he starts to feel painful side effects, particularly if he can't get his daily dose in time — troubling because even his large stash can't last forever. And, as he starts to see a man following him through the city, he realizes he's not the only person who knows about the wonder-powers of the drug.

You know the lottery daydream? The one that starts "If I won the lottery, I'd..."? The first bit is probably about telling the boss-man what to do with your job and maybe something about pushing your problem-prone car into a ditch. Then you get to the vacation home and the Paris shopping spree. But then you start to think about things like the new house (here? somewhere else? would we pull the kids out of school?) and keeping the money-sponging relatives at bay (maybe I'd have a trust collect the money, so I can remain private — can you do that in New Hampshire?). And eventually the simple "winning the lottery" fantasy involves designing a plane that can commute from New England to Hawaii in an hour and building a house with a moat and turning back time so you're 24 and cute when it all happens.

*Limitless* feels sort of like an elaborate lottery fantasy. The premise — a drug that can make you your most high-functioning self — starts strong. The "what would you do" fantasy is amusingly developed, thanks in part to the comfortable smirkiness of Bradley Cooper. He doesn't seem like someone who harbors great depths, as an actor, but he can look winning in a suit and toss off a few good lines just fine. But as the movie goes along, the story starts to become more fantastical, leading up to an ending that is the ultimate "we'd live in a space station and have two martial-arts-expert butlers on call at all times" scenario. It's a lot of suspension of disbelief, more than a movie this medium-effort can really get away with.

My feeling about the movie overall is similar to my feelings about the narration. At first, I was willing to go with it and enjoy the pleasant smarminess of Cooper's voice. But about two-thirds in, it all starts to feel a little too much. The movie gets in its own way of being the pleasant, fun thought experiment it could have been — particularly when it comes to the craggy, frowning De Niro and the shapelessness of his role. *Limitless* would have been better if someone had tried to reign it in. **C**

*Rated PG-13 for thematic material involving a drug, violence including disturbing images, sexuality and language. Directed by Neil Burger and written by Leslie Dixon (from a novel by Alan Glynn), Limitless is an hour and 45 minutes long and distributed by Relativity Media.*

**The Lincoln Lawyer (R)**  
**A weasely — and proud of it — defense attorney finds himself caught up in a case with a client even twistier than he is in *The Lincoln Lawyer*, a surprisingly fun legal mystery set to soul music and inter-cut with shots of a very badass-looking Lincoln.**

As we are told/infer, Mick Haller (Matthew McConaughey), a defense attorney constructed of equal parts chutzpah and hair product, at some point lost his license and got Earl (Laurence Mason) to drive him around in a vaguely pimpy Lincoln, from the back seat of which Haller could do his lawyering. But Mick liked the setup so much he kept Earl on even after he got his license back. All the better to deal with his semi-sleazy-seeming network of consultants and clients.

One such gentleman, Val Valenzuela (John Leguizamo) the bail bondsman, gives Mick a tip on a rich boy who is in need of a criminal defense attorney after being picked up for beating up his date. Louis Roullet (Ryan Phillippe) has a pretty-boy face and a mother with deep pockets and a not completely unconvincing story about the girl who's charging him being a prostitute looking to shake him down. Frank Levin (William H. Macy), Mick's investigator, is able to find some evidence to back that up. But both men also think Louis might be guiltier than he lets on, particularly once Mick finds some evidence connecting this case to an earlier one that sent his client (Michael Peña) to jail for decades. And, guilty or no, once Mick signs on, he has to keep his doubts from the prosecutor, Ted Minton (Josh Lucas, who makes an entertaining opponent as he has always seemed to be a discount McConaughey).

Throughout all of this, Maggie McPherson (Marisa Tomei) waltzes in and out of the story. Also a prosecutor for the district attorney's office, Maggie is Mick's former wife and the mother of his young daughter. It's only now dawning on me that her role serves almost no plot purpose — she helpfully provides some exposition and a little bit of texture for Mick's character. Her performance is strong enough, however, that you don't notice. She, Macy and a handful of other supporting characters really, well, class up the joint. I went in to this movie expecting next to nothing. Expecting, actually, to spend two hours drumming my fingers on a sticky armrest, anxiously waiting for the movie to end. This is not what happened — and what a lovely surprise. While I can see how (particularly if different actors had been involved) this movie could have gone down Hysteria Road to get caught in Cliché Cul-de-sac, it didn't. The movie is a quiet, scruffy little cops-and-robbers-type story that makes the most of its 1970s-retro feel and its seedy San Fernando Valley setting. **B**

*Rated R for some violence, sexual content and language. Directed by Brad Furman and written by John Romano (from a novel by Michael Connelly), The Lincoln Lawyer is an hour and 59 minutes long and is distributed in wide release by Lionsgate.*



**FILM** Continued

**AMC Tyngsborough**  
440 Middlesex St., Tyngsborough,  
Mass., 978-649-3980.

**Chunky's Cinema & Pub Nashua**  
151 Coliseum Ave., chunkys.com

**Chunky's Pelham Cinema & Pub**  
150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499

**Cinemagic Hooksett**  
1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett,  
644-4629. cinemagicmovies.com

**Cinemagic Merrimack 12**  
11 Executive Place Dr., Merrimack,  
423-0240, [cinemagicmovies.com](http://cinemagicmovies.com)  
**Flagship Cinemas Derry**  
10 Ashleigh Dr., Derry, 437-8800  
**AMC at The Loop**  
90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen,  
Mass., 978-738-8942  
**O'Neil Cinema 12**  
Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry,  
434-6333

**Regal Concord**  
282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-3800

**Regal Hooksett 8**  
100 Technology Dr., Hooksett, 641-3456

**Showcase Cinemas Lowell**  
32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass., 978-551-0055

**RED RIVER THEATRES**  
11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600,  
[www.redrivertheatres.org](http://www.redrivertheatres.org)  
• ***Rabbit Hole*** (PG-13, 2010)  
Thurs., March 24, at 8:10 p.m.  
• ***My Dog Tulip*** (NR, 2009) Thurs.,  
March 24, at 2, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
• ***Barney's Version*** (R, 2010)  
Thurs., March 24, at 2, 5:15 & 8  
p.m.; Fri., March 25, and Sun.,  
March 27, through Thurs., March  
31, at 2, 5:15 & 8 p.m.; Sat., March  
26, at 2 & 5:15 p.m.

at 7 p.m.  
• **Sadie Thompson** (1928) Monday,  
May 16, at 7 p.m.

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, [www.manchester.lib.nh.us](http://www.manchester.lib.nh.us)  
 • ***Flower Drum Song*** (NR, 1961)  
 Wed., March 30, at 1 p.m.  
 • ***The Guardian*** (PG-13, 2006)  
 Wed., April 6, at 1 p.m.  
 • ***Robin Hood*** (PG-13, 2010) Wed.,  
 April 13, at 1 p.m.

400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4101, [www.unhm.unh.edu](http://www.unhm.unh.edu).

- **Holy South Park** on Wednesdays, noon to 1 p.m., on April 13 and April 27 in the third-floor auditorium. A screening of *South Park* and a discussion with Matthew Dowd, lecturer of philosophy at UNH, about the way the series has handled religion.
- **Burma VJ**, a film about Burmese journalists risking their lives to expose the repression by the country's military leaders, on Tues., March 29, at 3 p.m.

1701B Hooksett Road, 485-6092,  
www.hooksett.lib.nh.us  
Free films and popcorn.

- ***Shrek Forever After*** (PG, 2010) Sat., April 16, at 2 p.m.
- ***Legends of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole*** (PG, 2010) Sat., May 21, at 2 p.m.

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, [www.nashualibrary.org](http://www.nashualibrary.org). Call 589-4646 for the library's film line, a schedule of upcoming movies. Films subject to change. Seating is limited. Food and drink are not permitted in the theater.

- ***Hereafter*** (PG-13, 2010) Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m.
- ***The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh*** (G, 1977) Sat., March 26, at 2 p.m.

14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288.  
www.amherst.lib.nh.us

• **“Does Film Have a Future?”** a discussion with Boston Globe film critic Ty Burr on Wed., March 23, at 7 p.m.

401 Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass.,  
978-970-4120, [www.pollardml.org](http://www.pollardml.org)  
• **Independent film night** on the  
second Thursday of each month from  
6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are not rated.  
• *A Bad Day to Go Fishing* (2009)  
on Thurs., April 14, at 6:30 p.m.  
• *The Perfect Storm* (PG-13, 2000)

on Sat., April 23, at 1 p.m.

25 Alumni Drive, Dover, www.doverschoolfood.com. Events are free and will be followed by a panel discussion.

- **Two Angry Moms** ([www.angry-moms.org](http://www.angry-moms.org)), a documentary about two mothers seeking to improve school lunches, Thurs., April 14, at 6 p.m.

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, [www.themusichall.org](http://www.themusichall.org)  
 • ***Somewhere*** (R, 2010) Tues., March 29, and Wed., March 30, at 7 p.m.

541 Main St. in New London, 526-3000, [www.colby-sawyer.edu](http://www.colby-sawyer.edu)

• **Bag It** (2010) Mon., April 4, at 7 p.m. in Clements Hall, Ivey Science Center, free. This is a documentary in which an average guy resolves to stop using plastic bags at the grocery store. [www.bagitmovie.com](http://www.bagitmovie.com).

82 State St., Newburyport, Mass.,  
978-462-3456, [www.newburyport-movies.com](http://www.newburyport-movies.com)

- ***The Housemaid*** (NR, Korean with titles) Thurs., March 24, at 7:30 p.m.
- ***The Illusionist*** (PG, 2010) March 25 through April 7: Fridays at 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.; Saturdays at 4:45, 6:45 & 8:45 p.m.; Sundays at 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Mondays through Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033,  
www.thecolonial.org  
• *Another Year* (PG-13, 2010)  
Thurs., March 24, at 7 p.m.  
• *The Illusionist* (PG, 2010) Sun.,  
March 26, through Thurs., March  
31: no film Fri. or Sat.; Sun. at 2, 5  
& 8 p.m.; Mon. & Tues. at 7 p.m.;  
no film Wed.; Thurs. at 7 p.m.

• **BOYS**, a locally made mob movie, will screen at O'Neil Theaters, 16 Orchard View Drive in Londonderry, [www.oneilcinemas.com](http://www.oneilcinemas.com), Sun., April 3, through Thurs., April 7, 9:30 p.m. See [www.boys-mobmovie.com](http://www.boys-mobmovie.com).

- **WHALEBACK FESTIVAL** in Portsmouth is seeking film submissions for the film festival that will run the weekend of May 14. Entries will be accepted until April 15. See [www.whaleback.org](http://www.whaleback.org) for more.
- **SUNDAY AFTERNOON MATINEES** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Amherst, 668-2045, [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org)) every Sunday, 1 p.m. Watch nature videos, a different show every week. Free.

**TOWN HALL THEATRE**  
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[www.wilontownhalltheatre.com](http://www.wilontownhalltheatre.com)

Starts Fri–Nicole Kidman–Aaron Eckhart  
**“RABBIT HOLE”**  
 Every Evening 7:30 Sun mat 2:00

Ed Helms, Anne Heche, John C. Reilly  
**“CEDAR RAPIDS”**  
 Every Evening 7:30 Sun mats 2:00–4:30

**Saturday Afternoon Library Classic Film**  
 Errol Flynn – Ronald Reagan – Alan Hale  
 The World War II action-adventure  
**“DESPERATE JOURNEY” (1942)**  
 Sat 4:30pm – free admission – donations to charity

SUNDAY a 1920 silent swashbuckler  
 Douglas Fairbanks **“MARK OF ZORRO”**  
 Silent w/live music by Jeff Rapsis – Sun 4:30pm

**Admission Prices: All Shows**  
**Adults \*\$6.00**  
 Children (under 12) and Seniors (65 and over) \$4.00



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**THE ILLUSIONIST** (PG/2010/80 min.)  
 Fri., Sat., Sun., 1:00, 3:00, 7:45 Mon., Tue., Wed., 2:05, 5:30 Thu., 2:05

**BARNEY'S VERSION** (R/2010/134 min.)  
 Fri., Sun., Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., 2:00, 5:15, 8:00 Sat., 2:00, 5:15

**THE KING'S SPEECH** (R/2010/118 min.)  
 Fri., Sat., Sun., 5:00 Mon., Tue., Wed., 7:15 Thu., 4:30

**WINSTON CHURCHILL: WALKING WITH DESTINY**  
 (NR/2010/101 min.) *In the Screening Room*  
 Fri., 5:30, 7:45 Sat., 4:30 Sun., 6:00 Mon., Tue., Thu., 2:10, 5:30, 7:45 Wed., 2:10

**THE BIG LEBOWSKI** (R/1998/117 min.)  
 Sat., 8:00

**603-224-4600**

Film times, descriptions & purchase tickets online at  
[www.redrivertheatres.com](http://www.redrivertheatres.com)

093380

# april 2-10, 2011

## NEW HAMPSHIRE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

### OPENING NIGHT GALA EVENT SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2011



**nora's will**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE PREMIERE  
8:00 pm, Currier Museum of Art, Manchester, NH.  
Tickets: \$40.00 per person  
Dessert and Champagne Reception follow the film



**the matchmaker**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE PREMIERE  
7:15 pm, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person

### THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2011



**shalom sesame street**  
PJ LIBRARY GOES TO THE MOVIES  
10:30 am, Jewish Federation of New Hampshire, Manchester NH  
Tickets: \$10.00 per family



**La Rafle (The Round Up)**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE PREMIERE  
8:00 pm, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person

### SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2011



**sixty six**  
3:00 pm, Chunky's Cinema Pub, Nashua, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person



**the trotsky**  
5:00 pm, Chunky's Cinema Pub, Nashua, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person  
Preceding our feature, meet independent film maker, Hilary Weisman Graham and view her short film *The Staring Contest*

### SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2011



**holy rollers**  
1:00 pm, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person  
The short film, *Gefilte Fish* precedes *Holly Rollers*



**Jews and Baseball, An American Love Story**  
3:00 pm, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person  
In person, special guest, Martin Abramowitz, President of Jewish Major Leaguers.org

### TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011



**ahead of time**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE PREMIERE  
7:00 pm, Jewish Federation of NH, Manchester, NH  
Tickets: \$6.00 per person



**the human resources manager**  
NEW HAMPSHIRE PREMIERE  
5:30 pm, Red River Theatres, Concord, NH  
Tickets: \$8.00 per person

### SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2011



**the human resources manager**

## tickets

Get your tickets and complete film information by going to [www.jewishnh.org](http://www.jewishnh.org) or call Jewish Federation of New Hampshire at 603 627-7679. Visit us on Facebook.

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# HIPPO NITE

## Nite Roundup

Local music  
& nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus  
music@hippopress.com

• **Vermont mountain getaway:** A three-day festival combining music and winter sports seems a fitting way to welcome spring, as jam band stalwarts moe. top a bill in Vermont's ski country that's rounded out by several stellar regional acts, including the Ryan Montbleau Band, Assembly of Dust and Twiddle. Attend the Snoe.down Winter Music & Sports Festival Friday, March 25, through Sunday, March 27, at Killington Resort in Killington and Spartan Arena in Rutland, Vt. Full schedule and ticket details are at [www.moe.org/festivals](http://www.moe.org/festivals).

• **Mighty voices:** Two performers well known for political activism share the stage for a short tour stopping on the Seacoast. With the Staples Singers, Mavis Staples had hits like "Respect Yourself," and as a solo artist she won a Grammy this year for *You Are Not Alone*. Englishman Billy Bragg has been the conscience of music across the pond for nearly 30 years. See Mavis Staples and Billy Bragg on Thursday, March 24, at 8 p.m. at the Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St. in Portsmouth. Ticket costs range from \$42 to \$54 at [www.themusichall.org](http://www.themusichall.org).

• **Laugh it up:** Boston comic Steve Bjork considers mullets on eight-year-olds to be child abuse and the scratch ticket line at Cumby's a fate worse than death — no argument here. Bjork shares the stage with seasoned funny men Chris Tabb and Ryan Gartley for a night benefiting Merrimack Youth Lacrosse. In an ironic twist, ticket-holders must be 18 or older — fodder indeed. Attend the Triple Header Comedy Night on Saturday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at Alpine Grove, Route 111A in Hollis. Tickets at the door are \$20. Call 424-8585 for more information.

• **Rock the mike:** A big hip-hop show featuring Fresh2Def, Family Bizness, The Movement Boyz, Psikwable, Family Affairs, Quiet Akilez, Illa Metaphors, Deep Minds, SIG, Young World, LB, S.D. Nass and Babbii Boi is dubbed "Campus Takeover." Well, the list of performers sounds like an army, but that's probably not the reason for the event's name. Attend the NHTI Campus Takeover on Friday, March 25, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10; for more information, call 271-8905.

• **Celtic reverie:** March 17 is past, but for those who keep Irish all through the year, the Aine Minogue Trio performs an afternoon concert of Celtic music, poetry, and song in Nashua this weekend. The harpist is joined by cellist Eugene Friesen of the Paul Winter Consort and Noriko Terada on percussion for a program titled "Not Your Father's St. Patrick's Day." See the Aine Minogue Trio on Sunday, March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St. in Nashua, 589-4610.

## "Seeding Thaw" brings it together

Art, poetry, music and local businesses combine

By Michael Witthaus  
music@hippopress.com

While Brian Melanson was earning a computer science degree at Bryant College, he frequently found himself turning from his technical studies toward his creative side. He began attending story and poetry readings. Eventually, a group led by Rhode Island School of Design poetry professor Tom Chandler helped Melanson to find his voice.

"My original works were more emotional, but I've kind of grown out of that," he says. "I'm influenced by nature and a lot of it's about New Hampshire and Main Street."

Recently, Melanson seized on a way to blend his business and creative impulses by organizing a collaborative event at Fody's Tavern in downtown Nashua: Seeding Thaw, which presents the work of five local artists combined with live music performances and poetry.

Musical guests include the rootsy Scott Barnett Band, singer-songwriter Russell Hill and guitarist Chuck Anastasiou. Among those exhibiting their art are abstract acrylic painters Carlo Ripaldi and Matt Pidgeon; Gary Destramp, whose watercolor cityscapes of his hometown of Lowell have drawn positive notices, Manchester tattoo artist/painter Ambitious Eva and Nashua glass artist Carla Sullivan.

The idea for Seeding Thaw came after an artist approached Melanson about painting an impression of a poem he'd written.

"I learned that there was a lot of local interest in cross-media collaborations," Melanson says. "That's when the first few steps were made to make this event happen."

The effort is the first in a series planned by Melanson.

"I'm trying to represent small business-

es, individual entities, and host events that bring them out into the mainstream," he says. The festivities begin with a gallery in Fody's downstairs function room, where patrons can peruse and make purchases. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. "There's a typical art gallery audience and they're different from music audiences," he says. "So the first hour is to give them what they are used to."

After the gallery, the action moves upstairs into Fody's main room. Each artist is allotted a half-hour segment to discuss his or her work and show some favorite pieces. Each discussion is followed by music. Scott Barnett, says Melanson, has a gravelly voice reminiscent of Eddie Vedder's and his band has a loose jamming vibe that will appeal to fans of Dave Matthews. Hill's songs owe a bit to Jackson Browne, while Anastasiou specializes in atmospheric instrumentals.

At the end of each segment, Melanson will read from his collection of poems, *The Lamp-post*. That's also the name of his recently launched marketing company, and the evening will also feature slide presentations from local businesses he's recruited as sponsors.

"I think there's a need for enlightening everybody and highlighting resources in the area that we might not know about," he says. The 35-year-old Melanson, who currently works for the medical website WebMD.com and spent several years as a computer analyst for Fidelity, hopes to build a web portal focused on local talent. "Rather than going to Google and finding a pair of slippers some lady made in Alaska, you could look local first and then branch out."

Holding the event at Fody's was a natural move, says Melanson. "I moved to Nashua the same year it opened, so I've been coming there for a long time," he says. Noting that open-mike events and comedy shows have



"Closure" by Matt Pidgeon.

occasionally been accompanied by artist displays, he added, "I found them open to having a collaboration between music and the arts."

City Room Café is the main sponsor of the event, which will also include a local business raffle and \$4 burger specials. All proceeds will benefit Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Nashua.

### Seeding Thaw

with local artists Carlo Ripaldi, Carla Sullivan, Matt Pidgeon, Ambitious Eva and Gary Destramp, along with music from the Scott Barnett Band, Russell Hill and Chuck Anastasiou

**When:** Sunday, March 27, at 5 p.m.  
(Gallery 5-6 p.m., live music and artist spotlight 6-10 p.m.)

**Where:** Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua

**Tickets:** \$7 at the door

**Info:** [www.nhlamppost.com](http://www.nhlamppost.com)

## Get up and dance or sit and relax

Triple local bill kicks off Late Night in the Spotlight

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Going out to hear live music often involves a choice between two extremes. The bar scene around Concord features a lot of talent, but indifferent patrons tend to make it a less than perfect listening experience. On the other hand, sit-down opera-house shows can be anathema to anyone looking to get up and dance.

Finding some middle ground was the thought behind Late Night at the Spotlight, a new music and dance series kicking off Saturday, March 26, at the Capitol Center for the Arts. For the event, The Spotlight Café, normally a concert venue for "on the bubble" performers who can't fill the main room, will be transformed into a "pub/club experience," says marketing manager Owen DeFrancesco.

The opening show features a Granite State sampler of original bands, including the bluegrass-fueled Crunchy Mountain Boys, Seacoast buzz band Tan Vampires and Con-

cord's own Blue Ribbon All-Star Band.

The Spotlight will have a lot in common with many of the pubs up and down Main Street, staying open until 1 a.m., with two bar stations and light appetizers. But there's a key difference. "There's seating on the side for relaxing and listening to the music, with a dance floor right down front for interacting more directly with the bands," says DeFrancesco. "Concord hasn't had something like this for a long time. There isn't a place to go out and see music in a setting like this."

The staff of the Capitol Center has tossed around the idea of doing something like this for a while, but recently a couple of things happened to move it to the forefront. At an energetic show by Darlingside and Barefoot Truth, dancers gathered away from the stage, when it was clear it would be better for both them and the band if they were down in front. "People want to dance but they want to respect the people sitting," explains DeFrancesco. "You don't want to be the person with someone glaring at you because you're blocking his



Tan Vampires. Courtesy photo.

or her view."

Then a last-minute cancellation left the venue with an open Saturday night, and the crew sprung into gear, booking the bands and getting the word out through different social networking channels. The response was positive enough to set plans in motion for a second Late Night on April 23, featuring Hot Day at the Zoo.

The Blue Ribbon All Star Band was a perfect choice for the inaugural event, with



## NITE

solid repertoire of original songs and a quickly growing fan base. The band includes Scott Solsky, one of a handful of regional musicians playing a seven-string guitar. The extra string deepens the bottom end, which comes in handy for his many solo gigs, as well as shows with his own quartet and a pair of other bands. Solsky says Blue Ribbon plays “Modern Americana — just because music is so hard to label these days, it’s such a melting pot. We have good old-fashioned rock and roll elements, tied with a little jam band ... Wilco is a band we get compared to quite a bit.”

A tight-knit local music community has a lot to do with Crunchy Mountain Boys’ getting on the bill. The band provided the music at Solsky’s wedding to Katy Brown Solsky, who works in patron relations at the Capitol Center. “This is the ultimate plug for them,” says Solsky. “When you’re a professional musician, the band you hire for your wedding better be good.” Featuring an acoustic sound driven by mandolin, bass, fiddle, guitar, Dobro, banjo, and multilayered vocals, they get fans dancing like they’re fully plugged in.

Tan Vampires is a band coming off a heady year where they were named “Best Indie Band in New Hampshire” by the Bos-

ton Phoenix. The Seacoast sextet features the timely songwriting of Jake Merhmann, along with Mike Effenberger, considered one of the best keyboard players north of Boston. Combining angst and musical chops, they are often compared to Radiohead.

The chance to reinvent the Spotlight Café as an original music alternative to the cover band-dominated bar scene has energized the staff. Says Katy Brown Solsky, who also runs the downtown Arts Market during the summer months, “One thing that’s fun is that the Capitol Center has been around for a while but we’re trying to use the venue in new ways ... if you have a space, why not use it as thoroughly if you can?”

DeFrancesco is also excited about the upcoming shows: “With the new setup it gives people the ability to stretch out and enjoy the music or really get down and make a real party night of it.”

### Late Night in the Spotlight

**When:** Saturday, March 26, at 9 p.m.

**Where:** Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 South Main St. in Concord

**Tickets:** \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door (21+) at [www.ccanh.com](http://www.ccanh.com)

## CONCERTS

### Venues

#### Capitol Center for the Performing Arts

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)

#### The Colonial Theatre

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, [thecolonial.org](http://thecolonial.org)

#### Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College

100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, [anselm.edu/DANA/](http://anselm.edu/DANA/)

#### Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom

169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, [casinoballroom.com](http://casinoballroom.com)

#### Leddy Center

- **The Celtic Tenors** Thurs., March 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **James Montgomery Band** Fri., March 25, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Richard Smith and Julie Adams** Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Dueling Pianos**, Sat., March 26, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Assembly of Dust** Sat., March 26, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Gordon Lightfoot** Sat., March 26, at 8 p.m., Colonial
- **The Junior Watson Band** Thurs., March 31, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Jefferson Starship** Fri., April 1, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Chris Trapper** Fri., April 1, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Yes** Fri., April 1, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **James Cotton** Sat., April 2, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Amy Petty** Sat., April 2, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Beatles for Sale** Sat., April 2, at 7 p.m., Adams Memorial Opera House
- **Yanni** Wed., April 6, at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
- **Joe Sample** Thurs., April 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Tristan Ormand** CD release party, Thurs., April 7, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s

38c Ladd’s Lane, Epping, 679-2781, [leddycenter.org](http://leddycenter.org)

#### Lowell Memorial Auditorium

East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, [lowellauditorium.com](http://lowellauditorium.com)

#### The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center

316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, [themiddlenh.org](http://themiddlenh.org)

#### The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org)

#### The Old Meeting House,

1 New Boston Rd., Francestown  
**Palace Theatre**  
80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

- **Tom Rush** Fri., April 8, at 8 p.m., The Middle
- **Air Traffic Controller** Fri., April 8, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Joe Sample** Fri., April 8, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Chad Verbeck, Mike Dion, Charles Christos, Seth Gooby and Jon Aaenstad** Sat., April 9, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **John Hammond** Thurs., April 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **The Smithereens** Fri., April 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Dueling Pianos**, Sat., April 16, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Neil Berg’s 101 Years of Broadway** Tues., April 19, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Brendan James** Wed., April 20, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Greyson Chance & Cody Simpson** Fri., April 22, at Casino Ballroom
- **Colin Hay** Fri., April 22, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Whiskey Kill** Fri., April 22, at 10 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Beatlejuice** Sat., April 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Wishbone Ash** Mon., April 25, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Jason Aldean** Thurs., April 28, at 7:30 p.m., Verizon
- **Peter Mayer** Fri., April 29, at 8

#### Rochester Opera House

31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, [rochesteroperahouse.com](http://rochesteroperahouse.com)

#### Stockbridge Theatre

Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, [stockbridgetheatre.com](http://stockbridgetheatre.com)

#### Tupelo Music Hall

2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, [tupelohall.com](http://tupelohall.com)

#### Verizon Wireless Arena

555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, [www.verizonwirelessarena.com](http://www.verizonwirelessarena.com)

#### Whittemore Center Arena UNH

128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, [www.whittcenter.com](http://www.whittcenter.com)

- p.m., Tupelo
- **Linda Eder** Fri., April 29, at 8 p.m., Colonial
- **Third Eye Blind** Fri., April 29, at 8 p.m. at Casino Ballroom
- **Matt Koziol** Fri., April 29, at 10 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Shawn Mullins** Sat., April 30, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Dueling pianos** Sat., April 30, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Deftones with Dillinger Escape Plan** Thurs., May 5, at 8 p.m. at Casino Ballroom
- **Roseanne Cash** Thurs., May 5, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
- **UFO** Thurs., May 5, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra** Fri., May 6, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Guster** Fri., May 6, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **David Mallet** Fri., May 6, at 8 p.m., The Middle
- **Chris Young** Fri., May 6, at 10 p.m., Boynton’s
- **Gary Allen** Sat., May 7, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Liz Longley** Sat., May 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **David Crosby and Graham Nash** Tues., May 10, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **The Buskers** Thurs., May 12, at 7:30, Cap Center

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**MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>  
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**LIVE THIS WEEK**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> — LAST LAUGH**

**MANCHUKA on Wednesdays and JOHN RIDLON on Thursdays**

**TUESDAYS**

**INDUSTRY  
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Come see why we are voted Best Bar for Live Music 10 years straight by Hippo readers!  
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## ENTERTAINMENT NIGHTLY

**Thur 6:30-9:30 Jazz Jam**  
**Ferdinando Argenti Trio**

**155 DOW STREET • MANCHESTER**  
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[www.fratellos.com](http://www.fratellos.com)

**12th Anniversary Celebration**  
**Saturday, April 2**

Pubs may come and go, but the Strange Brew continues to grow because of our great food, incredible selection of the world's best craft beers, and imports on tap...and our commitment to live music. On April 2nd we're kicking the music off early...so join us!

**Music Line-up**

- David Rousseau
- Mr. Nick and the Dirty Tricks
- Lisa Garvey from 92.5 The River's "Brunch by the River" will M.C.

**Full Dinner Menu 'til 11 PM**  
**Pub Menu from 11-Close**  
**Specials and Prizes all night long!**

**STRANGE BREW TAVERN**

88 Market Street  
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**Live Music 6 Nights a Week**

**MARCH**

24: Tom Keller Family  
25: Ryan Hartt  
26: Peter Parcek  
27: Tom & John  
29: Peter Parcek  
30: David Rousseau

Full Menu Until 11 PM  
Special PUB MENU  
11 pm - 1 am Tues. - Sat.

[StrangeBrewTavern.Net](http://StrangeBrewTavern.Net)

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BUY 2 DINNERS  
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**KARAOKE THURSDAYS**  
8PM-MIDNIGHT

**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
DJ VONGER

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
12:30-2:30AM  
AFTER HOURS BREAKFAST

**24 DEPOT STREET**  
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## NITE

## In the spotlight



### Head to Hampton

The 2011 concert season at the Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom will begin on Friday, April 1, with Yes, performing at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$36. Head to [www.casino-ballroom.com](http://www.casino-ballroom.com) to take a look at the line-up of concerts, which continues through April with Greyson Chance and Cody Simpson on Friday, April 22; Third Eye Blind on Friday, April 29; Deftones on Thursday, May 5, and Guster on Friday, May 6. The ballroom has shows on the schedule through September with more being added.

### Nitelite Listings Music, comedy & parties

• **BENEFIT FOR LOVE 146**, a national organization that combats child slavery and exploitation, will be held at the Manchester Vineyard Community Church, 150 Dow St., Manchester, on Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m. Borderline Eleven, Tom Flash and the Lightning Band, Grace Resounding and Three-Sided Circle will perform. Tickets cost \$20 at the door.

• **JEFF SNOW** will perform a free acoustic show at the Merrimack Library, 470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, on Thurs., March 24, at 7 p.m. To reserve a spot, call 424-5021 or email [mmkpl@merrimack.lib.nh.us](mailto:mmkpl@merrimack.lib.nh.us).

• **BENEFIT FOR POLIO:** The Yellow Team will perform at the Christa McAuliffe Auditorium at Concord High School, 170 Warren St., Concord, on Thurs., March 24, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 (\$3 for students). All proceeds will benefit Rotary International's efforts to fight polio. For information, e-mail [chsinteractclub@yahoo.com](mailto:chsinteractclub@yahoo.com).

• **BATTLE OF THE BANDS** will be held at Sky Lounge, 522 Amherst St., Nashua, on Fri., March 25, at 7 p.m. The Sellouts, Scooter Way Band and Small Town Stranded will perform. Tickets cost \$10 at the door and proceeds will benefit the Amherst Junior Women's Club.

• **COMEDY NIGHT** to benefit Lions Camp Pride will be held at the VFW Hall, 15 Bockes Road, Hudson, on Sat., March 26, at 7:30 p.m. Comedians Dave Decker, Jimmy Walsh and Steve Bjork will perform. Tickets cost \$20 at 595-4615, 889-0285, 329-5603 or [camppride2008@yahoo.com](mailto:camppride2008@yahoo.com).

• **IRISH CONCERT AND COFFEE:** Woods Tea Co. will perform at Belknap Mill, 25 Beacon St. East, Laconia, on Sat., March 26, at 7 p.m. Complimentary Irish coffee will be served at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$19 at 524-8813.

• **SEEDING THAW**, an event highlighting artists and musicians from the Merrimack Valley, will be held at Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua, on Sat., March 26, at 5 p.m. The Scott Barnett Band, Russell Hill and Chuck Anastasiou will be among performers. Artists will include Carlo Ripaldi, Carla Sullivan, Ambitious Eva, Gary Destram and Matt Pidgeon.

• **ROOMFUL OF BLUES** will perform at Windham High School, 64 London Bridge Road, Windham, on Fri., April 1, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$25, \$40 for a private band reception and reserved seating. Tickets can be purchased at [www.ticketstage.com](http://www.ticketstage.com).

• **LIVINGSTON TAYLOR** will perform at the Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, on Fri., April 1, at 7 p.m. A silent auction and meet and greet will begin at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$15 for students at [www.stockbridgetheatre.com](http://www.stockbridgetheatre.com) or by calling 437-5210. Proceeds will benefit the Center for Life Management Foundation.

• **COMEDY FOR KIDS** Robbie Printz, Steve Guilmette and Ryan Gartley will perform at Alpine Grove, 19 S. Depot Road, Hollis, on Sat., April 2, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 and can be reserved by calling Peter Giacapuzzi at 424-

2169 or [pgiacapuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:pgiacapuzzi@gmail.com).

All proceeds will benefit the Kids' Kove Revitalization Project.

• **SONNY AND PERLEY** will perform "April in Paris" at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Sun., April 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. The show is free and open to the public.

• **EILEN JEWELL** will perform at the United Church of Christ, 23 Central Square, Keene, on Fri., April 8, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 at [www.orangeearthproductions.com](http://www.orangeearthproductions.com), Toadstool Bookshop, Armadillo's Burritos, Monadnock Imaging and Good Fortune in Keene. All proceeds benefit the Monadnock Child Advocacy Center and Linda's Closet.

• **DAN ZANES & LOCAL FRIENDS** will perform at the Concord High School auditorium, 170 Warren St., Concord, on Sat., April 9, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 at Pitchfork Records, Imagination Village and French's Toy Shop in Concord. All proceeds benefit The Friendly Kitchen.

• **BLUE COLLAR COMEDY** Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Engvall and Larry the Cable Guy will perform at the Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester, on Sat., April 15, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$59.50 at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or by calling 800-745-3000.

• **RICO BARR & THE JUMP 'N' JIVE REVIEW** will perform for the New Hampshire Amateur Ballroom Dance Association at the Shepard Auditorium at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, on Sat., April 16, from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets cost \$15.

### Bowling

• **BOUTWELL'S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941.

• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, [www.lakesidelanes.com](http://www.lakesidelanes.com).

• **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, [www.ledalanes.com](http://www.ledalanes.com).

• **KING BOWLING LANES** 751 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9215, [www.kinglanes.com](http://www.kinglanes.com)

• **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-0989, 8:30 a.m. to midnight.

• **STADIUM TEN PIN** Maple Street, Manchester, 625-9656, [www.stadiumtenpin.net](http://www.stadiumtenpin.net).

• **TONY'S LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 673-6673.

### Chess

• **CHESS CLUB** open to players of all levels, 7 to 9 p.m. Fridays at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Call 589-4600.

### Scrabble

• **HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY** 2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, for adults every Monday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library. Invite a favorite Scrabble partner to come with you, or meet new opponents. Bring a Scrabble board.

• **BEDFORD LIBRARY** Richmond Room, Bedford Public Library, 2 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-2300, second Wednesday of the month, 7-9 p.m.

### Singles events

• **BYOB SINGLES DANCE** every Friday, 8 p.m. to midnight at Daniels Hall, Route 4 in Nottingham. Casual dress, free buffet, and drink setups, smoking outside on patio. Entertainment by dancing DJ Joann. Cost is \$12, 942-8525, [www.singlesdanceparties.com](http://www.singlesdanceparties.com).

### Trivia nights

• **BARLEY HOUSE** 132 North Main St., Concord, 228-6363, Wednesdays 8-10 p.m.

• **BO'S RIVERSIDE** at Milly's, 500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444, Thursday, 8:30 p.m.

• **CHEERS** 17 Depot St., Concord, 228-0180, Fridays 9 p.m.

• **HART'S TURKEY FARM** 233 DW Hwy., Meredith, 279 6212, Thursdays 7 p.m.

• **JJ BOOMERS** 705 Pawtucket Blvd., Lowell, 978-970-3159, Wednesdays 8 p.m.

• **MARGARITA'S** 1 Bicentennial Sq., Concord, 224-2821, Tuesdays 8 p.m.

• **MARGARITA'S** 1037 Elm St., Manchester, 647-7717, Sundays at 7 p.m. 9 p.m.

• **PATRICK'S PUB & EATERY** 18 Weirs Road, Gilford, 293-0841, Mondays 7 p.m.

• **PEDDLER'S DAUGHTER** 48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, Tuesdays 9 p.m.

• **PRIME TIME SPORTS BAR & GRILL** 620 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7231, Wednesdays 8-11 p.m.

• **SHASKEEN** 909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, [www.theshaskeen.com](http://www.theshaskeen.com), Mondays 8 p.m.

• **STRANGE BREW TAVERN** 88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, [www.strangebrewtavern.net](http://www.strangebrewtavern.net), Thursdays 8 p.m.

• **WILD ROVER** 21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7722, [wildrover.com](http://wildrover.com), last Monday of every month at 7 p.m. w/ Frank and Joe.

• **WHIPPERSNAPPERS** 44 Nashua Road, Londonderry, 434-2660, open mike on Mondays at 8:30 p.m.



Bouncing around the puzzle — RockandRollCrosswords.com by Todd Santos

Across

1. Guitar god Anastasio

5. Sometime star enemy (abbr)

8. Got on Simon & Garfunkel's bus

11. "You'll see what I might \_\_\_ said" Phish 'Waste'

12. What Dolly Parton's chest weighs?

13. Brothers Neil and Tim

14. "All I \_\_\_ needed is here in my arms" Depeche Mode

15. Original Beatles bassist Sutcliffe

16. John Cougar 'Hand To Hold \_\_\_' (2,2)

17. Song off self-titled 'The Fray' outing (6,3,3)

20. 'Girl On TV' boy band

21. Semisonic's "fascinating new thing" (abbr)

22. Let My Love Open \_\_\_ (3,4)

26. 'Love, Reign \_\_\_' Who (3,2)

30. Song's harmonic center

31. Sugar 'Hoover \_\_\_'

33. Stewart of The Stones

34. 'Giving In' nu-metalers

37. What security did, before the bust

40. W \_\_\_ Rose

42. 'Sweet Thing' Morrison

43. Jack's Mannequin "I have become \_\_\_ overwhelmed"

49. Good Riddance song that melts ice?

50. Phish's 'Gamehendge' companion

'The \_\_\_ Who Stepped Into Yesterday'

51. Phish 'Round \_\_\_'

53. Happened 'In The Life' of John and Paul (1,4)

54. They took 'Care Of Business' (abbr)

55. Disco hairdo

56. "This has all been wonderful, but now I'm on my \_\_\_" Phish

57. "Now you're messing with a \_\_\_ of a bitch"

58. Gordon of Phish

29. Linkin Park 'In The \_\_\_'

32. Good Charlotte jam for a new day? (5,2)

35. Metal guitarist Friedman

36. What Anastasio of Phish plays

38. "Like Nashville with a \_\_\_" Shawn Mullins 'Rockabye'

39. Soul singer James

41. Haste The Day 'As \_\_\_'

43. First Time Ever \_\_\_ Your Face (1,3)

44. Zoe song for nothing?

45. Jars Of \_\_\_

46. Ozzy's "sail across the ocean", perhaps (abbr)

47. Lower quality sound (hyph)

48. Pennsylvania town Live hails from

52. Jam band mainstays

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Written By: Todd Santos

Down

1. "That's just \_\_\_ way it is"

2. Great review

3. Seven Places '\_\_\_ When'

4. Reef 'Glow' jam for the elderly? (3,3)

5. Ben Harper 'When \_\_\_' (3,4)

6. Scorpions original guitarist Uli Jon

7. Slipknot 'All Hope Is Gone' hit

8. SST owner/Black Flag guit-man Greg

9. Evanescence 'Give \_\_\_ Me'

10. 'Informer' one-hitter

13. Former name of Fort

18. Michael Schenker band

19. Yoko \_\_\_

22. 80s 'Come Get My Love' Latin trio

23. \_\_\_ PE, or Planet Earth

24. Phish 'Punch You In The \_\_\_'

25. Flock Of Seagulls 'I \_\_\_'

27. Grech of Traffic

28. Beatles 'Maggie'

3/17

J	I	M	I		M	E	S	S		C	A	L	L							
F	R	E	S	H		A	L	T	O		A	X	I	S						
K	I	L	L	I	N	G	Y	O	U	R	S	E	L	F						
S	T	E	P	O	N		P	L	O	T										
						P	O	E	T		A	R	M	E	D					
						A	L	L	I	N	T	H	E	G	R	O	O	V	E	
						K	N	I	F	E		E	Y	E	S		D	E	N	
						E	N	D	O		R	E	B	E	L		L	E	N	S
						S	U	E		L	I	M	E		F	O	R	T	E	
						H	A	L	L	U	C	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	S	
						A	L	L	A	N		D	I	O	N					
							S	C	A	R		S	N	E	E	Z	E			
						T	H	E	T	H	R	I	L	L	I	S	G	O	N	E
						R	O	L	E		E	A	S	E		T	A	N	Y	A
						I	P	O	D		A	D	D	S		N	E	A	R	

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Located at 155 Dow Street (Beside Fratello's)

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Friday, March 25th | 8pm

Comedy at Boynton's with Chris Tabb, Lauren Verge and Matt Kona | \$20



Friday, April 8th | 8pm

Comedy at Boynton's with Ben Hague, Jon Lincoln and Michele Mortensen | \$20



Friday, April 1 | 8pm

Chris Trapper \$20\*



Duelling Pianos

Saturdays | 8pm

3/26, 4/16, 4/30, 5/14, 6/4 & 6/18

Bar & Table Seating \$13\*

Front Row Seating \$20\*

BOYNTON'S TAPROOM & Hippo PRESENT

Rising Stars



Friday, April 8 | 10pm

Air Traffic Controller \$10\*



Friday, April 22 | 10pm

Whiskey Kill \$10\*

Special discounts for Hippo Email Club members; see your email for the secret "unlock" code.

\*includes \$3 ticket fee

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## On the scene

**Band members of the world, unite and take over**

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to [music@hippopress.com](mailto:music@hippopress.com). Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

**... or you, with a club...**

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to [music@hippopress.com](mailto:music@hippopress.com) along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if you regularly update your website or MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

**... and if you are a music fan...**

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at [music@hippopress.com](mailto:music@hippopress.com). Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

**Friday, March 25**  
**Allenstown**

**Ground Zero:** With Our Teeth, Midnight Mob, Wishpool, Convey and Op Orange

**Amherst**  
**Souhegan Christian Church:** open mike w/ Music at the Ledge

**Bedford**  
**Slammers:** Common Knowledge

**Belmont**  
**Top of the Town:** Joe Holiday

**Bow**  
**Chen Yang Li:** The Lazy Boy Rockers

**Concord**  
**Beijing & Tokyo:** karaoke w/ DJ Tom  
**Green Martini:** Gary Banker & Friends  
**Red Blazer:** George & Brian  
**Tandy's:** DJ

**Deerfield**  
**Lazy Lion Cafe:** Dwight Phetteplace

**Dover**  
**Barley Pub:** Connor Garvey  
**Brick House:** Paranoid Social Club, The Mallett Brothers Band  
**Kelley's Row:** Rough  
**RJ's:** DJ Big Pez

**Epping**  
**Holy Grail:** Siroteau

**Exeter**  
**Shooters:** DJ BiggZ & D

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** The Lost and Found, Paul Costley

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** acoustic jam w/ John Erlman

**Hampstead**  
**Pasta Loft:** Three Play

## In the spotlight

**Battle of the Bands**

Three local bands will compete at the second annual Battle of the Bands to benefit the Amherst Junior Women's Club at Sky Lounge, 522 Amherst St., Nashua, on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. The Sellouts, a six-member band whose instruments include the harmonica, Scooter Way Band, a four-member Greenfield-based alternative rock group, and Small Town Stranded (pictured), a five-member Manchester- and Milford-based band, will perform. Bobby Alwarden and Porter Dodge will serve as judges. The event will also feature an auction. Tickets cost \$10 at the door.

**Village Square:** Dirty Thirds

**Hampton**  
**Wally's:** Knock Off Band

**Kingston**  
**1686 House Tavern:** Mike Belkas

**Laconia**  
**Fratello's:** Paul Warnick  
**Paradise Beach Club:** DJ

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop:** Gary Lopez  
**Whippersnappers:** Groove Alliance

**Manchester**  
**American Legion:** karaoke  
**Black Brimmer:** Stomping Melvin  
**Cactus Jack's:** Steve O  
**Club 313:** DJ Bob, DJ Dave G, karaoke w/ CJ  
**Derryfield:** The Hitmen  
**Element:** karaoke  
**Fratello's:** Sev  
**Jam Factory:** Northlight, Christie Lane, Threadweaver  
**Johnny Bad's:** karaoke w/ DJ Rokkstar  
**Milly's:** Flashback Friday  
**Mulligan's:** karaoke  
**Murphy's:** Jim Devlin  
**Piccola's:** Two by Two  
**Shaskeen:** Joshua Tree  
**Strange Brew:** Ryan Hartt

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Michael

**Bourgeois, DJ**  
**Merrimack**  
**The Homestead:** Marc Apostolides

**Milford**  
**Pasta Loft:** Kelly's Heroes  
**Nashua**  
**Amsterdam:** DJ  
**Fody's:** Chad LaMarsh  
**Martha's Exchange:** DJ Spivak  
**Peddler's Daughter:** Take 4  
**Stella Blu:** Rampage Trio  
**Studio 99:** Brendan Hogan, Jason Myles Goss

**New Boston**  
**Gravity Tavern:** Brick Yard Blues

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Moon Boot Lover w/ Squid City

**Newton**  
**Hen House:** DJ

**Peterborough**  
**Harlow's Pub:** The Skip Philbrick Blues Band

**Plaistow**  
**The Dugout:** DJ Boo  
**Sad Cafe:** From The Depths, Upon This Fateful Hour, Maybrick, Teeth, At The Ready

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** Leo Ganley

**Gas Light Co.:** Tony Santesse, DJ Koko P  
**The Page:** DJ  
**Press Room:** Tan Vampires  
**Red Door:** Matt Dimond  
**Rudi's:** Jared Steer

**Salem**  
**Black Water Grill:** Rob Breton  
**Jocelyn's:** DJ

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** Tom Dixon Band  
**Honey Pot:** DJ

**Tilton**  
**Thirsty Crow:** Brian and Jon from Mugshot

**Windham**  
**Jonathon's:** karaoke


**Saturday, March 26**  
**Allenstown**  
**Ground Zero:** Oath Of The Sons, Asphyxiation Of A Beast, Us From The Animals, My Missing Half, Waiting For A Train

**Auburn**  
**Holiday's:** Just Us

**Bedford**  
**Slammers:** Vital Signs

**Belmont**  
**Top of the Town:** Joe Holiday


**Concord**  
**Barley House:** karaoke



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**Deck is Open for St. Patrick's Day Parade**  
**Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

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## NITE

**Beijing & Tokyo:**  
karaoke  
**Hermanos:** Bryan  
Thomas  
**Tandy's:** DJ

**Dover**  
**Barley Pub:** Jerks of  
Grass w/ Steve Roy  
**Brick House:** Hope Road  
**Fury's:** One Hand Free  
**Kelley's Row:** Gazpacho  
**RJ's:** DJ

**Epping**  
**Holy Grail:** Chris O'Neil

**Epsom**  
**Circle 9 Ranch:** Shana  
Stack Band

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** Paul Warnick

**Hampton**  
**Wally's:** Ript

**Hampstead**  
**Village Square:** Dirty  
Thirds

**Henniker**  
**Daniels:** Blue Light  
Rain

**Hooksett**  
**Asian Breeze:** Troy and  
Tramack

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop:** Steve  
Sibulkin  
**Whippersnappers:** Spi-  
ral Circus

**Manchester**  
**American Legion:**  
karaoke  
**Black Brimmer:** Last  
Laugh  
**City Sports Grille:** Ten  
and Out  
**Club 313:** DJ Bob,  
karaoke w/ CJ  
**Derryfield:** Nimbus 9  
**Fratello's:** Paul Luff  
**Jam Factory:** Matthew  
Drew, American Mixer,  
The Attic Bits, The Big  
Sky, Mural  
**Murphy's:** Best Not  
Broken  
**Piccola's:** Family Affair  
**Rocko's:** Kill Beast,  
Egypt Central, Thurkills  
Vision, Cold, Kopek  
**Shaskeen:** Irish sessions  
w/ Roger Burrige, The  
Paulies  
**Strange Brew:** Peter  
Parcek  
**Wild Rover:** Red Sky  
Mary  
**The Yard:** Gale Country

**Mason**  
**Mason Congregational  
Church:** open mike w/  
Mike Damery

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Tom Yoder,  
Jam Sandwich

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Marc  
Apostolides

**Milford**  
**Chapanga's:** open mike  
w/ Driven

## In the spotlight



### Blues in Windham

Roomful of Blues will take the stage at Windham High School, 64 London Bridge Road, Windham, on Friday, April 1, at 8 p.m., for a concert to benefit the Windham High School music department. The band's latest album, *Hook, Line and Sinker*, features horn- and guitar-fueled music. The Grammy-nominated group has performed at the San Francisco Blues Festival and the Stockholm Jazz Festival. Tickets cost \$25 for the performance, \$40 for the performance and a private reception. Tickets can be purchased at [www.ticketstage.com](http://www.ticketstage.com).

**Pasta Loft:** Scooter  
Way and Friends

**Nashua**  
**Fody's:** One Fine Mess  
**Martha's Exchange:** DJ  
**Milano's Sports Bar:**  
karaoke w/ DJ Bernie D  
**Peddler's Daughter:**  
Third Stone  
**Stella Blu:** Bees Deluxe  
**Studio 99:** open mike,  
Hughie Stone Fish

**New Boston**  
**Gravity Tavern:** T Mud  
and The Spuds

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** The  
Cyborg Trio, Johnny  
and the Two Timers

**Plaistow**  
**Sad Cafe:** Keep Me  
Conscious, All These Ele-  
ments, Messages of Ennui,  
Valley Forge, Cody Nilsen

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** George  
Brown Band, Chris  
Castle, The Womack  
Family Band  
**Gas Light Co.:** Elijah  
Clark, DJ JW  
**The Page:** DJ  
**Press Room:** jazz lunch  
w/ Larry Garland  
**Red Door:** Lord Bass  
**Rudi's:** Dimitri and  
Rob Gerry

**Salem**  
**Jocelyn's:** Kevin Elliott

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** Mugsy

**Windham**  
**Jonathon's:** karaoke

**Sunday, March 27**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** John Franzosa  
**Penuche's:** open mike  
w/ Steve Naylor  
**Tandy's:** karaoke w/ DJ  
Mark and Kerri

**Dover**  
**Barley Pub:** Yvonne  
Aubert  
**Brick House:** The  
Human Flight Commit-  
tee, The Minus Scale,  
Too Late The Hero  
**Jimmy's:** open mike  
w/ Denis Patrick & The  
Gene Sibley Group  
**RJ's:** DJ  
**Station House:** karaoke

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** blues jam

**Hampton**  
**Wally's:** Before the Crash

**Kingston**  
**Rick's:** blues & rock open  
mike w/ Bobby Freedom

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** The  
Beloved Few

**Manchester**  
**900 Degrees:** blues open  
mike night w/ Tom Bal-  
lerini

**Black Brimmer:** Yoke  
Shire  
**Cactus Jack's:** Sonic  
Boomers

**Element:** karaoke w/ DJ  
Sharon  
**Johnny Bad's:** blues jam  
w/ The Deep Pockets  
**Mulligan's:** karaoke  
**Shaskeen:** sing-along  
w/ the Spain Brothers  
**Strange Brew:** Tom  
Keller and John  
Medeiros

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** JTG music  
memorial

**Nashua**  
**Milano's:** karaoke w/  
DJ Bernie D

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** open  
mike w/ Dave Ogden

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** open  
mike  
**Daniel Street Tavern:**  
karaoke  
**Press Room:** Jerry  
Bergonzi, Ryan Parker,  
Will Slater & Brooke  
Sofferman  
**Red Door:** Green Lion  
Crew  
**Rudi's:** jazz brunch w/  
Chris O'Neil and Bryan  
Killough

**Stratham**  
**Acoustic Outfitters:**  
acoustic open mike w/  
Ellen Carlson

**Monday, March 28**  
**Candia**  
**Henderson's:** electric  
rock open mike

**Concord**  
**Barley House:** Scott  
Solsky

**Hermanos:** John Fran-  
zosa  
**Red Blazer:** Matt Langley

**Dover**  
**Orchard Street Chop  
Shop:** open mike w/  
Dave Ogden

**Hampton**  
**La Bec Rouge:** open  
mike w/ Elijah Clark  
**Wally's:** DJ

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** open  
mike w/ Gardner Berry

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Tim Gurshin  
**Mulligan's:** live band  
karaoke

**Meredith**  
**Camp:** acoustic open  
mike w/ Linden Mazurka  
**Giuseppe's:** Lou Par-  
razzo

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Sev

**Milford**  
**J's Tavern:** acoustic  
open mike

**Portsmouth**  
**Press Room:** PJ Dona-  
hue Combo  
**Red Door:** Rebecca  
Pronsky, Valarie Orth,  
Gemini

**Seabrook**  
**Honey Pot:** karaoke

**Windham**  
**Jonathon's:** karaoke

**Tuesday, March 29**  
**Bedford**  
**Slammers:** karaoke w/  
DJ Robyn

**Concord**  
**Barley House:** Irish  
sessions  
**Hermanos:** Glen Paladino

**Dover**  
**Brick House:** acoustic  
open mike w/ Anthony  
Vito Fiandaca  
**RJ's:** DJ

**Hampstead**  
**Pasta Loft:** acoustic open  
mike w/ Mike Belkas

**Laconia**  
**The Studio:** Ericka  
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# In the spotlight



## Cyborg Trio

The Cyborg Trio will take the stage for an all-ages show at The Stone Church, 5 Granite St., Newmarket, on Saturday, March 26, at 9 p.m. The three-member based released their first fully improvised “jam” album in 2009 and has shared the stage with the Jerry Garcia Band, Digital Tape Machine, Orchard Lounge and The Indobox. Goosepimp Orchestra will open for the Trio and VJ FOO will provide visuals throughout the show. Tickets cost \$8 at the door.

# In the spotlight



## Springtime music

The Sundays at 4 Music Series will wrap up at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, with “April in Paris – Springtime and Romance with Sonny and Perley” on Sunday, April 3, from 4 to 5 p.m. The husband-and-wife duo, pianist Sonny Day and vocalist Perley Rousseau, will perform a blend of jazz, Brazilian and international cabaret. The show will feature Great American Songbook standards and international love songs, as well as the music of Cole Porter and Edith Piaf. The show is free and open to the public. Visit [www.amherst.lib.nh.us](http://www.amherst.lib.nh.us) to register.

**Londonderry**  
Whippersnappers: video DJ

**Manchester**  
900 Degrees: acoustic music

**Black Brimmer:** DJ Chad  
**Element:** karaoke w/ DJ Sharon  
**Fratello's:** Mark Rozier  
**Murphy's:** open mike w/ Josh Logan, Nate Comp and Paul Costley

**Strange Brew:** Peter Parcek

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Michael Bourgeois

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Gary Lopez

**Milford**  
J's Tavern: G Man from Mama Kicks  
Pasta Loft: karaoke

**Nashua**  
Fody's: karaoke w/ Mark Allen  
Killarney's Pub: karaoke w/ DJ Bernie D

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Local Circus, bluegrass jam

**Portsmouth**  
Blue Mermaid: Jake Roche and friends  
Press Room: jazz jam w/ Larry Garland, hoot open mike w/ Chad Verbeck  
Red Door: PB Kidd

**Seabrook**  
Honey Pot: open mike

**Windham**  
Jonathon's: karaoke

**Wed., March 30**  
**Antrim**  
Redneck's: open mike w/ the Boogiemens

**Auburn**  
Holiday's: karaoke w/ DJ Captain Chris

**Boscawen**  
Alan's: open mike

**Concord**  
Green Martini: open mike w/ Steve Naylor  
Hermanos: Glen Paladino  
Tandy's: karaoke, DJ

**Dover**  
Barley Pub: Chris Burbank Funk Project  
Brick House: BKOG, Triple Aces  
Fury's: open mike w/ Paul Chase  
Three Chimney's Inn: open mike

**Hampton**  
Wally's Pub: live karaoke w/ Baked Naked

**Hudson**  
Johnny's Pizzeria: karaoke w/ Tony Zzz

**Kingston**  
The Carriage Towne Bar & Grille: Mike Belkas

**Laconia**  
Cactus Jack's: Tony Santesse

**Manchester**  
Black Brimmer: Country Felix Band  
Fratello's: Steve Sibulkin  
Johnny Bad's: open mike w/ David Thompson and Steven Devine  
Strange Brew: David Rousseau

**Meredith**  
Giuseppe's: Dave Wunsch

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Doug Mitchell  
**Milford**  
J's Tavern: Lisa from Mama Kicks  
Pasta Loft: Morgan and Pete

**Nashua**  
603 Lounge: open mike w/ Kevin Horan  
Peddler's Daughter: Revels Glen  
Sausage King: open mike w/ John Borlaug

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Rizzo's Dilemma w/ Rusted Juke

**Peterborough**  
Harlow's Pub: open mike

**Portsmouth**  
Blue Mermaid: open mike w/ Tom Brown and Duke Mandell  
Press Room: Rick Walsh  
Red Door: Red on Red w/ Evaredy  
Rudi's: Dimitri

**Seabrook**  
Chop Shop: karaoke w/ Matty R  
Honey Pot: karaoke

**Windham**  
Jonathon's: karaoke

# COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

**Thursday, March 24**  
**Londonderry**  
Tupelo: Brad Mastrangelo and Jimmy Walsh

**Nashua**  
Fody's: Alana Susko

**Friday, March 25**  
**Hampton**  
Ashworth: Mike Donovan, Joey Carroll and Ray Harrington

**Lowell**  
Lowell Memorial Audi-

torium: Lisa Lampanelli

**Manchester**  
Boynton's: Chris Tabb, Lauren Verge and Matt Kona

**Portsmouth**  
Sheraton: Live Free or Die Laughing w/ Tom Hayes

**Saturday, March 26**  
**Hudson**  
VFW: Steve Bjork, Jimmy Walsh and Dave Decker

**Nashua**  
Margaritas: Live Free or Die Laughing w/ Bob Siebel

**Monday, March 28**  
**Concord**  
Penuche's: live standup

**Tuesday, March 29**  
**Manchester**  
Murphy's: live standup

**Wed., March 30**  
**Hampton**  
Old Salt: Bob Seibel

**Manchester**  
Shaskeen: open mike

**Saturday, April 2**  
**Hollis**  
Alpine Grove: Robbie Printz, Steve Guilmette, and Ryan Gartley

**Monday, April 4**  
**Concord**  
Penuche's: live standup

**Tuesday, April 5**  
**Manchester**  
Murphy's: live standup

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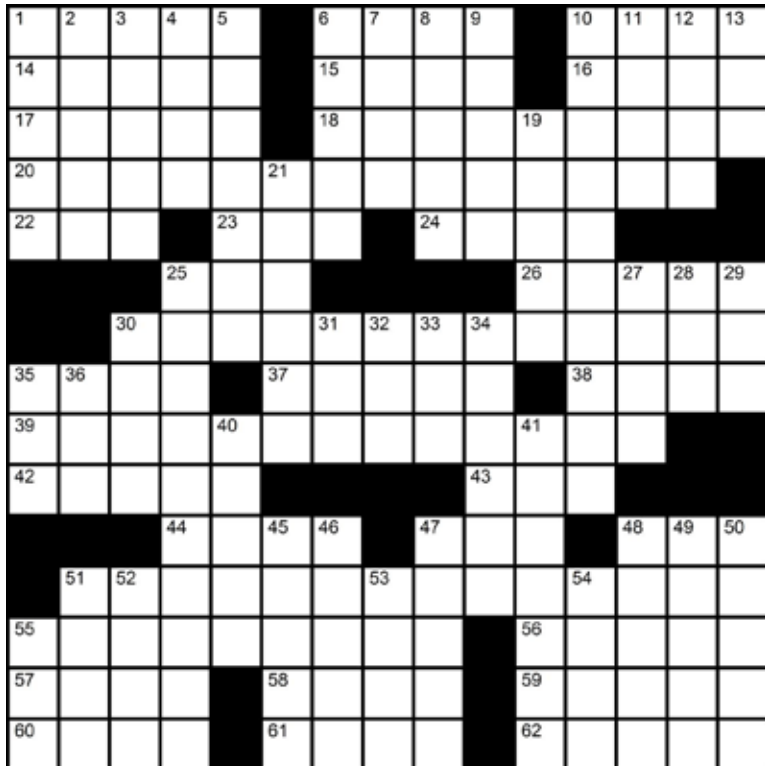
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## Across

- 1 One of Barack's daughters  
 6 Glazier's piece  
 10 Cake time, for short  
 14 In base 8  
 15 Month on the Hebrew calendar  
 16 Wine-lover's prefix  
 17 Get on the ground and move  
 18 Reads  
 20 Fish co-owned by pianist Myra and ex-Jets  
 owner Leon?  
 22 Suffix meaning "inclined to"  
 23 Longtime Pink Floyd label  
 24 Beatnik's assent  
 25 Glove compartment item  
 26 Barely \_\_\_ on the radar  
 30 Doubly-demonic rapper/actor?  
 35 Leave off  
 37 It's not designed to be a lint trap  
 38 Tattoo parlor supplies



- 39 Gathering where everyone's all, "What up, everybody?"  
 42 Sandbar  
 43 Homeopathic diet drops in 2011 health news  
 44 \_\_\_ Jr. (Sprout competitor)  
 47 Golfer

3/17



Michelle

- 48 Get some grub  
 51 Poet who elicits a lot of giggles?  
 55 "ER" actress Julianna  
 56 King of the gods, in Hindu mythology  
 57 Opera song, or a Vegas Strip hotel  
 58 Office corr., sometimes  
 59 "Today" co-anchor Matt  
 60 Lions' homes  
 61 Horse-drawn carriage  
 62 Joints for pleading?

## Down

- 1 Russian host of the 2014 Olympics  
 2 Farmer's expanse  
 3 Narc's find  
 4 Hems and \_\_\_  
 5 Herbal remedy whose name suggests it does a lot  
 6 Drink with a Max variety  
 7 Pub options  
 8 Finnish runner Paavo  
 9 Spanish hero played by Charlton Heston  
 10 Humorous news website whose logo is a girl with a jackhammer  
 11 "Whip It" band  
 12 From the top  
 13 Attention-getting shouts  
 19 Historic name in supercomputers  
 21 Put on the payroll  
 25 Biofuel from cows  
 27 Like some odds

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All quotes are from the Mercy Watson books by Kate DiCamillo, born March 25, 1964.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** *In the car with the pig in it, the pig was having a very good time. The wind was tickling her ears. The sun was warm on her snout. Even though she was not the one behind the wheel, Mercy was happy.* —Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride. Take pleasure in simple things. Let the wind tickle your ears.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** *“Toast is not the answer,” grumbled Eugenia. But she buttered another piece anyway.* —Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride. Oh, yes it is.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** *Animal Control Officer Francine Poulet was on her way to 54 Deckawoo Drive. “Francine,” she said to herself, “you’ve never encountered a pig before. This is a career-expanding opportunity.”* —Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig. Make the best of a new experience.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** *“Baby,” said Eugenia, “we live next door to a pig.” “Yes, Sister,” said Baby, “we do.” “But that does not stop us from living a gracious life,” said Eugenia.* —Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig. Let nothing stop you from living a gracious life.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug 22)** *“We never did get to see that movie,” said Stella. “I wonder if it ended happily,” said Frank. “Well,” said Mrs. Watson, “here we are,*

*all of us together.” “And we’re all eating toast,” said Mr. Watson. “I can’t imagine a happier ending than that,” said Mrs. Watson.* —Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes. Enjoy togetherness and toast.

**Virgo (Aug. 23–Sept. 22)** *Mercy was wearing a hat. She was watching Stella pour imaginary tea. She was watching Stella slice imaginary cake. Mercy was not having a good time. Where were the enchiladas and cream puffs?* —Mercy Watson Thinks Like a Pig. Things may not go as you had envisioned them.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** *Mercy sighed. She was glad the ride was over. She felt a tiny bit dizzy. And a little bit dazed. She wanted, very much, to go home.* —Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride. You will enjoy a ride but you will also enjoy a homecoming.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)** *In reality, Leroy Ninker was a small thief on the back of a big pig. But in Leroy’s mind, he was a cowboy riding a bucking bronco in the Wild West.* —Mercy Watson Fights Crime. Keep in mind the distinction between fantasy and reality. If you’re not sure which is which, ask around.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)** *In Mercy’s dream, hot buttered toast was piled high on her favorite blue plate and Mrs. Watson was buttering still more. It was an excellent dream.* —Mercy Watson to the Rescue. Follow your best dreams.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan 19)** *Baby Lincoln is the younger sister. She is the baby of the family. Baby agrees with everything Eugenia says. It is easier that way. But secretly, Baby has an opinion of her own.* —Mercy Watson to the Rescue. Go with the flow, but don’t lose sight of your own opinions.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)**

*“Look!” said Mrs. Watson. “Mercy has escaped.” “She is going to find help,” said Mr. Watson. “She is going to alert the fire department.” Mercy left the bedroom at a gallop. She was in a hurry. She was on her way to the kitchen. She was looking for some toast.* —Mercy Watson to the Rescue Single-mindedness can be a virtue or a hindrance. Make sure you’re

SIGNS OF LIFE

not losing sight of the big picture. **Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** *Mercy thought very hard. Where could she get a snack? And the answer came to her: Baby Lincoln always had sugar cookies. Baby Lincoln lived next door. And Baby Lincoln liked to share.* —Mercy Watson to the Rescue Share with others, and spend time with others who like to share.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

8	9		1					5
						4		1
	3		2		5			
		5		3		1		4
3		9		4		7		
			6		8		1	
1		2						
6					1		8	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/24

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SU  
DO  
KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

3/17

2	5	8	9	4	6	1	7	3
9	4	3	1	7	2	6	5	8
6	1	7	5	8	3	9	2	4
1	3	6	7	2	4	5	8	9
7	9	2	6	5	8	4	3	1
5	8	4	3	1	9	7	6	2
8	2	1	4	6	5	3	9	7
4	6	9	8	3	7	2	1	5
3	7	5	2	9	1	8	4	6

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# NEWS OF THE WEIRD

## BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

### 21st Century American Exports?

In strife-torn Sudan (land of the Darfur murder and rape atrocities and a per-capita annual income of \$2,200), an epic, year-long Ponzi scheme engineered by a lowly former police officer has enticed nearly 50,000 victims to invest an estimated \$180 million (according to a March dispatch on Slate.com). At the height of the hysteria, even militia fighters in Darfur rushed to invest. (As Bernard Madoff was initially, perpetrator Adam Ismael is lounging comfortably under house arrest.) And in February, NPR reported that the United States government will soon be asked to bail out yet another bank that dramatically overextended itself with bad loans -- and is now \$900 million short: the Bank of Kabul in Afghanistan.

### Cultural Diversity

- The essential uniform of super-ambitious Chinese businessmen nowadays includes a leather designer purse, reported the Los Angeles Times in a February dispatch from Beijing, and high-end sellers "can't believe their luck," now that "(b)oth sexes in the world's most populous country adore purses." The Coach company will have 53 stores in China by mid-year, and Hermes and Louis Vuitton are so optimistic that they built stores in less-obviously prosperous reaches of the country. (Apparently, only authentic designer items lend businessmen credibility. For the export market, China remains a world leader in trademark-pirating knock-offs.)

- The lower house of Russia's parliament approved legislation in February to classify beer, for the very first time, as an alcoholic beverage. Traditionally, because of the dominance of the vodka industry, beer has been regarded as closer to a soft drink.

- Ewwww! (1) The government of Malawi's proposed environmental control legislation, introduced in January, was thought by some advocates to be broad enough to criminalize flatulence. The justice minister said the section about "fouling the air" should cover extreme flatulence, but the country's solicitor general insisted that only commercial air pollution was punishable. (2) Only 20 percent of Cambodians have access to toilets (half as many as have mobile phones), and missions such as International Development Enterprises blanket the countryside to urge more toilet usage. In one promotion campaign in Kandal province, according to a February BBC News dispatch, an investigating team called a public meeting and singled out ("amid much laughter") one particular farmer whom it had calculated as producing the most excrement of anyone in the village.

### Latest Religious Messages

- "I thought, 'Man, is this what Jesus would do?'" said Akron, Ohio, repo man Ken Falzini, after surviving a short, harrowing ride clinging to the hood of the Lexus he was trying to repossess from Bishop Marc Neal of Akron's Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in January. Neal, later charged with felony assault, told a reporter he thought it "disrespectful" for Falzini to try to repossess a preacher's car during Sunday services. Falzini said Neal was "laughing" during parts of the drive, which included sharp zig-zagging at speeds around 50 mph to dislodge Falzini from the hood.

- In Britain's Coleraine Crown Court in February, Colin Howell, convicted last year of a double murder (of his wife and his girlfriend's

husband), testified at the girlfriend's trial for the same crimes that he frequently drugged her during their sex sessions. She had requested to be unconscious during sex, according to Howell, so that she would not be bothered by "Christian guilt" over the extramarital affair they were having. (The trial was ongoing at press time.)

### Genetic Legacies

In January, Czech Television reported on a recent, joyous, but confusing, family reunion featuring a woman (Ilona Tomeckova) who had become a man (Dominik Sejda), and who had finally found love (in the person of Andrea Kajzarova, who was, before her own sex change, a bodybuilder named Tomas Kajzar). Dominik, motivated to reconnect with his original family, learned that the son he had given birth to (Radim) was himself undergoing a sex change (to become Viki).

### Questionable Judgments

- Just How Bad Was Mom? In Brooklyn, N.Y., Judge Bernard Graham recently awarded custody of an estranged couple's teenage boy to the father even though the father was at the time homeless and living from night to night in shelters and storefronts. The mother, Jeannette Traylor, who earns \$90,000 a year as a courthouse employee, was even denied visitation rights. (Judge Graham insisted the arrangement was in the boy's best interest, but Graham was later transferred to non-divorce cases.)

- Apathy is a problem with many homeowners' associations, but at the annual meeting of the Hillbrook-Tall Oaks Civic Association of Annandale, Va., in June, 50 people sleepily voted for Ms. Beatha Lee as president, thus electing (in a legitimate, by-the-book process) a Wheaten terrier belonging to former association officer Mark Crawford. Crawford said that Beatha, as a manager, "delegates a lot."

### The Redneck Chronicles

(1) An unnamed man was taken to St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., in February with a gash on his face and a bullet (later removed) in his sinus cavity. KOKI-TV reported that police think "he might have been chewing on a fire-

cracker or a bullet" when it exploded. (2) A 50-year-old woman was arrested in February in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., after managers at a Family Dollar store accused her of walking out without paying for packages of baking soda and dishwashing detergent and a pair of thong panties (total value, according to Family Dollar, \$7.50).

### Least Competent Criminals

(1) To conceal an arrest warrant for auto theft, Amos Ashley, 62, told traffic-stop officers in Lawrenceburg, Ind., in February that he was (as he wrote on a paper for them) "Rorth Taylor." ("Pronounce it," ordered a trooper.) "Robert Taylor." ("Spell it once more, please.") "R-e-r-e-r-t," wrote Ashley. ("And 'Taylor?'" "T-a-y-l-o-e-r." Several more attempts followed, until Ashley finally admitted his name and was arrested. (2) Police in Princess Anne, Md., arrested George Ballard, 25, inside a PNC Bank at 11 p.m. on Jan. 25 after a motion detector sounded. Officers said the "cash" Ballard was in the process of taking was in fact a stack of fake bills the bank uses for training.

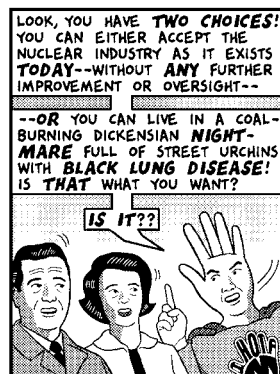
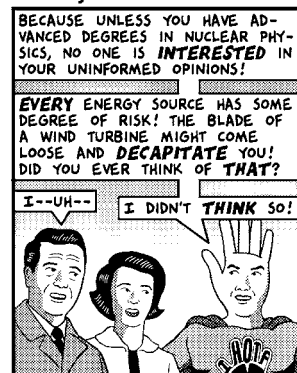
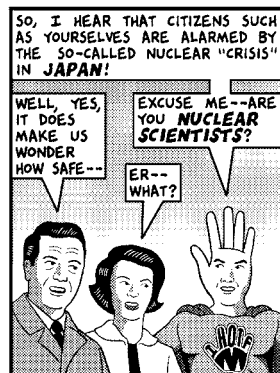
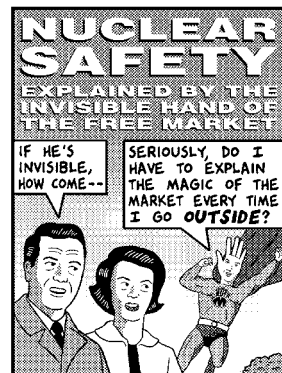
### Update

World's Greatest Lawyer: Christopher Soon won an acquittal in February for his client Alan Patton, who had been charged with violating a law that had been passed primarily to stop Alan Patton. That law makes it illegal to collect urine from public restrooms. Patton, of Dublin, Ohio, was convicted in 1993 and 2008, and charged again in October 2010, with waiting in restrooms and, when young boys finished using the urinal (after Patton had obstructed the flushing mechanism), rushing to gather the contents, which he admitted sexually excited him. After Patton's 2008 conviction, the Ohio legislature made that specific act a felony, and Patton's arrest in October was supposed to lead to a premiere conviction. (The judge did find Patton guilty of "criminal mischief," a misdemeanor.)

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at NewsOfTheWeird.blogspot.com and www.WeirdUniverse.net. Other handy addresses: WeirdNews@earthlink.net, http://www.NewsOfTheWeird.com, and P.O. Box 18737, Tampa FL 33679.

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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**0% APR** **\$20,999**  
UP TO 60 MOS.

## NEW 2011 FORD EDGE SE FWD



#1538

MSRP	\$28,230
FOL DISC	\$1,731
FORD RETAIL CASH	\$500
FORD CREDIT CASH	\$1,000
FORD PROMO CASH	\$1,000

**YOU PAY**  
**4** **\$23,999**  
AVAIL.

## NEW 2011 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB 4X4 5.0 V8



TRAILER TOW,  
XL PLUS XL DECOR,  
#1401

MSRP	\$32,300
FOL DISC	\$2,801
FORD RETAIL CASH	\$1,000
FORD CREDIT CASH	\$1,000
FORD PROMO CASH	\$1,000
FORD COMMERCIAL UPFIT CASH	\$500

**YOU PAY**  
**0% APR** **\$25,999**  
UP TO 60 MOS.

## NEW 2011 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE



FXT SPORT PKG., AUTO.,  
LTHR., #1071

MSRP	\$33,145
FOL DISC	\$2,646
FORD RETAIL CASH	\$500
FORD CREDIT CASH	\$1,000
FORD PROMO CASH	\$1,000

**YOU PAY**  
**\$27,999**

## FORD OF LONDONDERRY PRE-OWNED SPECIALS

### 2004 TOYOTA COROLLA LE

#P17023A ..... **\$6,999**

### 2004 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4

#1365B ..... **\$9,999**

### 2006 DODGE RAM 1500 SLT

#0902A ..... **\$9,999**

### 2007 FORD FUSION

#1436A ..... **\$11,999**

### 2007 SCION TC

#P1225A ..... **\$11,999**

### 2006 MAZDA TRIBUTE 4X4

#1006A ..... **\$11,999**

### 2006 DODGE CHARGER SE

#1367A ..... **\$12,999**

### 2008 FORD FOCUS SE & SES

3 AVAILABLE STARTING FROM ..... **\$12,999**

### 2005 CHEVY EXPRESS CUTAWAY

#0751B ..... **\$13,999**

### 2004 TOYOTA SIENNA AWD LE

#P1265A ..... **\$13,999**

### 2009 TOYOTA MATRIX S AWD

#P16883A ..... **\$15,999**

### 2007 PONTIAC G6 GT CONVERTIBLE

#1299A ..... **\$15,999**

### 2010 FORD FOCUS SEL

#17015 ..... **\$15,999**

### 2010 FORD FUSION SE

#P16837 ..... **\$16,899**

### 2008 FORD EDGE SE

#P16963 ..... **\$16,999**

### 2004 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB FX4 4X4

#1443B ..... **\$16,999**

### 2007 FORD EDGE SEL AWD

#1470A ..... **\$17,999**

### 2008 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4

#P17007 ..... **\$18,999**

### 2008 FORD E-250 CARGO VAN

#R8539 ..... **\$18,999**

### 2006 TOYOTA TACOMA DOUBLE CAB 4X4

#P1398A ..... **\$18,999**

### 2007 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4

#1419A ..... **\$19,999**

### 2009 FORD FLEX SE

#0940A ..... **\$19,999**

### 2010 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE

6 AVAILABLE STARTING FROM ..... **\$19,999**

### 2010 FORD E-350 12 PASSENGER VAN

#P16976 ..... **\$20,999**

### 2009 FORD ESCAPE LTD. V6 4X4

#1244A ..... **\$20,999**

### 2010 FORD E-250 CARGO VAN

#P17004 ..... **\$20,999**

### 2007 FORD F-150 CREW CAB XLT 4X4

#0866A ..... **\$20,999**

### 2008 JEEP COMMANDER LTD. 4X4

#1558A ..... **\$21,999**

### 2007 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER PREMIER AWD

#P16920 ..... **\$21,999**

### 2008 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 EXT CAB 4X4

#P1469A ..... **\$23,999**

### 2007 FORD F-150 CREWCAB 4X4 XLT

#1040A ..... **\$23,999**

### 2010 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4X4

#P17017 ..... **\$23,999**

### 2010 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

2 AVAILABLE YOUR CHOICE ..... **\$25,999**

### 2007 FORD F-150 CREWCAB 4X4 FX4

#1019A ..... **\$25,999**

### 2009 FORD F-350 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4

#1155A ..... **\$25,999**

### 2008 LINCOLN MKX AWD

#P17020 ..... **\$26,999**

### 2010 FORD EXPLORER EDDIE BAUER 4X4

6 AVAILABLE YOUR CHOICE ..... **\$26,999**

### 2007 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR ULT. AWD

#P16930 ..... **\$32,999**

### 2008 FORD F-350 C/C LARIAT DIESEL 4X4

#1501A ..... **\$34,999**

### 2010 LINCOLN MKX AWD

#P17021 ..... **\$35,999**

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